



ESTABLISHED 1859.

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POSTCARD COMPETITION.

PHARMACEUTICAL ANAGRAMS.

For one of our recent competitions, a correspondent submitted the following "anagram":—

Inf. rad. gentian. co.—
A fine, grand tonic.

We are open to receive other attempts of the same kind. They may be anagrams of names of drugs or pharmaceutical preparations, or of names of firms or persons known in pharmacy. This competition will close on August 31 next. Anagrams must be sent on postcards. Subscribers, their families, and employes are eligible to compete. One guinea, and more if the competition is a good one, will be given or distributed for the best anagrams.

EDUCATIONAL NUMBER.

THE Editor will be obliged for any information in regard to arrangements for the coming session now being made by schools of pharmacy, chemistry, dentistry, and medicine throughout the country. The secretaries of local associations are also requested to communicate particulars or prospectuses of local classes specially adapted for pharmaceutical students.

Summary.

FOUR cases of poisoning with carbolic acid are reported this week (p. 308).

A TENBURY chemist has committed suicide by taking laudanum (p. 308).

OUR Paris correspondent gives an interesting budget of news this week (p. 310).

WE report upon a fresh batch of novelties which will interest retailers (p. 313).

IT is proposed to keep a stricter watch in France upon the adulteration of olive oil and honey (p. 322).

A WELSH chemist writes about the kind of customers he had to deal with in a colliery district (p. 318).

A STRIKE of bottle makers, which has kept the Calder-vale works idle, has been satisfactorily settled (p. 309).

THE Dublin Assistants' Society has made a record by stating lectures and paper reading in August (p. 309).

A WEST OF LONDON chemist has been fined under the Medicine Stamps Act for too free use of the possessive case (p. 315).

WE quote from an American contemporary a useful note regarding the manufacture of paraffined paper in the United States (p. 312).

WE give a collection of formulæ for counter-specialities, sent to us by a New York contributor, which should be useful (p. 319).

THOSE who have followed the acetylene gas development will be interested in the experimental apparatus for making it figured on p. 312.

YEAST is grown to an appalling extent for manufacture into the compressed variety. Concise particulars of the industry are given on p. 322.

MR. A. H. ALLEN, of Sheffield, and Mr. Rimmington, of Bradford, have not been able to agree regarding the analytical results from a sample of milk (p. 315).

THE Sanitas Company (Limited) are to appeal against the decision of the New Zealand Court in regard to the use of their trade-mark by a sand-soap maker in that colony (p. 311).

MR. J. R. JACKSON, of the Kew Museum, deals in his paper on Formosan drugs with the origin and properties of a number of native medicines procured from druggists' shops in Iamsui (p. 324).

SIR WILLIAM ROBERTS, M.D., is endeavouring to revive interest in narcotine (he calls it anarcotine), which he considers a valuable antiperiodic, but we think the grounds for his enthusiasm are slight (p. 320).

BRITISH COLUMBIA has got a new Pharmacy Act which contains some original provisions, and in other respects shows that the fringe of the British Empire is better off pharmaceutically than the centre (p. 321).

IN our Correspondence columns we print letters regarding the distribution of small quantities of proprietary medicines for prescriptions, on pharmacy à la Martin, and other trade topics, while replies to correspondents are numerous (p. 331).

DR. BERNARD DYER, as analyst for Leicester, has examined and reported upon thirty-nine bottles of an iron-and-quinine mixture dispensed by as many chemists from a prescription. Only three of these were not correct, and the error was slight in each case (p. 308).

A FILEY chemist has been before Magistrates on a charge of furiously riding a bicycle: fined 20s. A Hemerton chemist's assistant appeared at the North London Police Court on a charge of stealing from someone's coat-pocket, but the affair turned out to have been a practical joke. Another chemist's assistant has been charged at Hull with indecent assault on a little girl: he is remanded (p. 308).



English News

The Editor is obliged to correspondents who send local newspapers containing items of interest to the trade. He will be further obliged if such paragraphs be marked in all cases.

Dispensing Tonic-mixtures.

Dr. Bernard Dyer, the public analyst for Leicestershire, has presented a report to the County Council in reference to samples of medicines submitted to him during the quarter for analysis. Thirty-nine samples had been examined. These consisted of tonic-mixtures obtained by submitting to thirty-nine druggists throughout the county prescriptions for a tonic-mixture containing iron and quinine. It was very satisfactory to him to be able to report that in thirty-six of the thirty-nine cases the mixture was both accurately dispensed and properly labelled. In one other case in which the mixture was properly dispensed it was wrongly labelled. In one other case the mixture was slightly too strong, but not very materially so. In the remaining case a mixture of iron and quinine was made up, but it was quite a different mixture from that ordered. It contained $2\frac{1}{2}$ times as much quinine as would be contained in a mixture properly made up according to the prescription, so that a patient taking the mixture as directed would have been consuming $7\frac{1}{2}$ gr. of actual quinine per day, instead of the 3 gr. that would have been contained in the mixture as ordered. He understood that the druggist who dispensed that mixture was cautioned to be more careful in the future.

Painless Dentistry.

Alice Clark, the woman who was charged with having unlawfully and maliciously administered poison to a youth named Charles Veal, who went to her to have a tooth drawn, and was given a draught which made him ill, was tried before the Frome Magistrates on August 14, and the case was dismissed.

Business Trips.

The employés of Thomas Tyrer & Co., of the Stirling Chemical Works, Stratford, had their annual heanfeast at Clacton-on-Sea on Saturday last. Mr. Charles Tyrer presided at the dinner.

The employés of Mr. Stephen Willson, of Peterborough (the Canadian pig-powder factory), journeyed to Yarmouth on August 13 for their annual treat. The weather was all that could be desired, and a very pleasant day was spent.

Chemists at Cricket.

The Wolverhampton Chemists' C.C. played a match with the Walsall Grocers' C.C. on August 15. The chemists ran up a total of 94, of which 64 were contributed by Mr. Swinnerton, who was not out. The grocers responded with 59 only.

West Yorkshire Federated Chamber of Trade.

The sixth annual report of the West Yorkshire Federated Chamber of Trade, of which Mr. Alderman H. Dunn, of Shipley (chemist and druggist), is the president for the year, *vice* Mr. George Webster, J.P., of Wakefield (grocer), is an encouraging document, recording concessions gained in respect of railway rates, the adoption of a resolution in favour of compulsory early closing, and the assurance given to the Chamber by the Postmaster-General that there is no intention of adopting the "cash on delivery" system of parcel post in this country. Mr. Dunn was re-elected president. This Chamber was established in 1889, and consists of a federation of tradesmen's associations in West Yorkshire, it being the outcome of joint meetings held in various towns to protest against the proposed increase of railway rates. The Chamber now consists of fifteen tradesmen's associations, having an aggregate membership of 2,000 tradesmen in all branches of business.

The Penalty of Practical Joking.

Ernest Adams (29), a druggist's assistant, of Marlow Road, Homerton, was in the dock at North London Police Court on Monday, charged with attempting to steal from the coat-pocket of Samuel Walker, of Clerkenwell Close. The prosecutor did not appear, and the policeman (541 J) who had charge of the case said he knew no more than that he was called to the Alma public-house, Clinch Road, Homerton, to take the prisoner into custody for attempting to steal from Walker's coat-pocket. The prosecutor did not appear, and he (the officer) believed it was all a practical joke. The Prisoner: Yes, sir. Mr. Paul Taylor (magistrate): For which he has been locked up since midnight on Saturday. There is no prosecutor, and the prisoner is discharged.

A Chemist Supplies the Candles.

Mr. E. A. Holloway, chemist, of Fleet Street and Union Street, Torquay, has secured the contract from the Torquay Corporation for 40,000 fête-lights and 4,000 candles for Japanese lanterns for use in connection with the Torquay regatta illuminations on August 26, 27, and 28.

A Chemist Charged with Assault.

At the Hull Police Court, on August 17, Guildford Dudley North, a young man, described as a chemist, was charged on a warrant with indecently assaulting a girl 12 years of age. Supt. Dannatt prosecuted, and stated that the allegation was that the assault took place in the waiting-room of the Hull Dispensary while the girl was waiting for some medicine. Accused had nothing to do with the dispensary, but had called to see Dr. Roe, who was absent at the time. It was further alleged that he also assaulted another girl, 11 years of age. North left Hull, and had been apprehended at Norwich on the previous day. The prisoner, who apparently felt his position keenly, was remanded.

Suicide of a Chemist.

Mr. John Turley, chemist, Tenhury, committed suicide on Monday last by taking laudanum. He had been eccentric at intervals, and manifested great fear of death, but evaded the precautions of his family to remove poisons out of his reach, and took a heavy dose of tincture of opium.

A Lunatic Customer.

At Westminster Police Court, on August 16, George Chilvers (45), a waiter, was charged with stealing a pennyworth of salts from a chemist's shop in Pimlico. The prisoner was locked up not because of his paltry theft, but by reason of his extraordinary conduct. Dr. Gallè, the divisional surgeon of police, said that four or five times he had certified the defendant to be a lunatic, and he was sent to the St. George's Union Workhouse. Usually after a few days' detention he was released. Mr. Proud, the clerk, said he recollected the prisoner being charged with walking up to a strange gentleman, and kicking him in the groin. The Gaoler: He has been here for violent assaults and damage many times. Mr. Sheil: Whoever lets him out must take the responsibility for the harm he does. It is a monstrous thing to release people of this sort time after time when they have been properly certified by a doctor. Dr. Gallè: The man is not sane now. He may have lucid intervals, but when he takes anything to drink he is bad for weeks. Mr. Sheil: I will commit him again to the workhouse as a lunatic.

A "Scorcher" Chemist.

Charles Stathers, described as a chemist, of Filey, was summoned at the Bridlington Police Court on Saturday with furiously riding a bicycle on the highway in Murray Street, Filey, on August 16. Sergeant Smith, in the course of his evidence, stated that he saw the defendant riding the bicycle at the rate of between ten and fifteen miles an hour. At the junction of Union Street he ran into a perambulator and threw out the occupant. Eventually the Bench inflicted a fine of 20s., including costs.

Carbolic-acid Poisonings.

Joseph Elson (58), Oldham, bought 2 oz. of refined carbolic acid from Charles Gurtside, chemist, Hilton Arcade, Oldham, and poisoned himself with it. He had been much upset by losing his work as a turner.

An inquest was held last week on the body of Joshua Robinson, gunsmith, of Raydon Street, Highgate, who died in the Hampstead Infirmary from the effects of carbolic-acid poisoning. This was the person who was found in a dying state on Hampstead Heath. He seems to have been depressed since suffering from influenza. He was found to have committed suicide with carbolic acid, while of unsound mind.

Dr. Wynn Westcott held an inquiry at Hackney, on August 16, respecting the death of Sarah Annie Stroybant (49), the wife of a merchant, lately residing at 33 Kyverdale Road, Stoke Newington. Mrs. Stroybant had suffered from a very painful skin-disease, which Dr. McNaughton had pronounced hopeless. Since then she had been very low-spirited, and when she was alone one day she had killed herself by taking carbolic acid. The jury returned a verdict of suicide while in a state of temporary insanity.

An inquest was held at Liverpool, on August 16 touching the death of Mary Ashton, a charwoman. According to the evidence the deceased was much addicted to drink. On one occasion she went to a public-house in Brownlow Hill, and asked the person in charge whether she had ever been in hell. The other replied in the negative. Deceased said she had. "It must be pretty lively there," said the licensee. "Not at all," said the deceased. "The devil is kinder to me than men, and he has asked me to go back again, and I am going." She was found dead in her bedroom, having poisoned herself with carbolic acid. The jury considered she was temporarily insane.

The Sanitas Company and the Camberwell Vestry.

At the last fortnightly meeting of the Camberwell Vestry a protracted discussion took place in reference to the carbolic powder supplied under contract by the Sanitas Company. The Sewers and Sanitary Committee reported having submitted a sample of the powder in question to the public analyst, who had certified that the powder was one per cent. deficient in carbolic acid. The Committee therefore recommended that the Sanitas Company be requested to pay the analyst's fee of one guinea. In the course of the discussion it transpired that a letter had been received from the manager of the Company, who stated that the powder did contain 15 per cent. of carbolic acid, as per contract, but that it was almost impossible to ensure absolute uniformity of strength. In spite of this explanation, however, the Committee still recommended that the Sanitas Company be called upon to pay the analyst's fee. The clerk reported that the Company had written expressing their willingness to pay the guinea, but, at the same time, reserving their opinion as to the method of taking samples. Mr. Ayers moved that the contract with the Sanitas Company be annulled, and that fresh tenders for the supply of disinfectants be forthwith invited. The Chairman pointed out that the question of annulling the contract could only be dealt with after notice of motion. There was much more discussion, and it was mentioned that Mr. Perry, a member of the vestry, was interested in the Sanitas Company. The Chairman observed that, though it was true Mr. Perry was connected with the Sanitas Company, he had nothing to do with the contract in question. Mr. Hampden Davis moved that the recommendation of the Committee be rejected. Mr. Mitchell asked if there was any real value in these disinfectants. Dr. Stevens said that if they did no other good they had a good moral effect upon the public and tended to reassure them. Dr. Serjeant said it was not fair to pass judgment on the bulk on the strength of having tested one sample. Mr. Perry said he was very proud of his connection with the Sanitas Company, but he had never asked a single person to influence a contract on their behalf. He had sat in that hall for many years, and this was the first occasion upon which such a suggestion had been put forward. He considered that Mr. Ayers had behaved in a most blackguardly manner towards him. Mr. Perry was urged to withdraw that expression, but declined to do so. Ultimately the recommendation of the Committee was carried.

Brighton Chemists' Excursion.

The second annual excursion of the Brighton Association of Pharmacy is to be held on August 29, the destination being Tunbridge Wells. Train will leave Brighton at 10.13, and carriages will meet the train at Tunbridge Wells to

convey the party to Penshurst. Lord de L'Isle's seat at Penshurst Place will be open to inspection. Driving back to the Wells lunch will be served at the Swan Hotel, and afterwards another drive will take the visitors to the High Rocks, where tea will be provided. The hon. secretaries, Messrs. W. W. Savage and C. G. Yates, will supply tickets at 12s. 6d. each.

Took the Liniment for the Medicine.

An inquest was held at the Streatham Town Hall on the body of Mary Louisa Coe, aged 71, lately residing at 91 High Road, Streatham, who died from belladonna-poisoning. The medical evidence showed that deceased took some liniment containing belladonna. The doctor could not say how much deceased had taken, but every teaspoonful of the liniment contained 60 gr. of belladonna (*sic*). Deceased was very short-sighted, and in his opinion she had mistaken the liniment for a bottle of medicine. The jury returned a verdict of death from misadventure.

Vitriol in the Sauce-bottle.

An inquest was held on Tuesday last by the Bradford Borough Coroner, on the body of a boy named Herbert Dawes, aged 6, of Hardy Street, Bradford. It appeared that on Friday last the deceased was playing with other boys, when they picked up a bottle in a stable containing a liquid. Deceased drank some of the contents, and shortly afterwards was taken ill. A medical man was called in, but the boy died on Sunday morning. Mr. F. M. Rimmington, the borough analyst, said the bottle contained sulphuric acid, only slightly diluted. It was often used in stables for cleaning the metal on harness, &c. The bottle had evidently formerly contained sauce. The jury returned a verdict of death from misadventure.

The Bottle Trade.

On Tuesday, August 20, an interview took place between the firm of Messrs. John Kilner & Sons, of Calder Vale Glass-bottle Works, and a deputation representing work-people to the number of 250 who were out on strike. It appeared that for some time past the men had been turning out badly-made bottles, which had to be thrown aside. A fortnight ago, the firm gave notice to their employes that in future all had bottles above four dozen to the shift would be deducted from the wages. As the men did not raise any objection at the time, it was thought that they had agreed to it; but, when the arrangement was put into force, they refused point blank to resume work except on the old terms and in accordance with an agreement made some time ago, under which the employers agreed to pay the old rates until the end of the present year. It was stated that the interview resulted satisfactorily for the men, and on Wednesday morning they resumed work on the old terms.



Irish News

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Pharmaceutical Chemists' and Apothecaries' Assistants' Association of Ireland.

At a meeting of this Association, held on August 16, Mr. J. B. Alister, M.P.S.I. (President), in the chair, the Chairman announced that Dr. Ninian Falkiner, who had been invited to lecture to them that evening, regretted that imperative business necessitated his absence from Dublin, but he assured the Association of his interest in its welfare. In the absence of Dr. Falkiner, Mr. Payne had consented to lecture on microscopic bacteriology. Mr. F. T. Parker, L.P.S.I., would read a paper on August 23 on "Modern Pharmacy." A discussion ensued in respect to a room for meetings, and eventually it was resolved to hold over the application to the Pharmaceutical Society and to seek elsewhere for quarters,

as there seemed to be a desire to have the exclusive use of rooms, which could later on be utilised as a reading-room or library. It was suggested that a representation be made to several of the largest advertisers of *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* to advertise in the proposed new book of rules, and it was hoped that such advertisements would add to their funds some 40% or 50%. On the motion of Mr. Hardy, it was resolved to solicit the support and influence of the employers, by sending a copy of the rules and an explanatory circular to each employer in Dublin. Some of the business having been finished, Mr. W. Payne delivered his lecture on "Microscopical Botany," dealing at length with cells, protoplasm, chlorophyll, and the fibro-vascular bundles in stems. The lecture was illustrated by a large number of slides, and at its conclusion the lecturer was warmly thanked.

The Chemical Company's Cash box.

On Saturday night last the premises of the Chemical Company, Drogheda, were forcibly entered and 61% in cash stolen. The police have the matter in hand.

An Experiment on a Living Animal.

With the view of testing the capacity of the human stomach, Mr. J. Howard, a Cork medical student, last week swallowed seventy-two eggs in ten minutes, and finished by drinking a quart of milk. No ill results followed.

The Strike of Doctors.

The Mayor of Cork is endeavouring to effect a settlement of the dispute between the friendly benefit societies and their "medicine men." An informal conference has already been held, and an arrangement come to that an equal number of delegates from the doctors and the societies will decide the question.



Scotch News

The Editor is obliged to correspondents who send local newspapers containing items of interest to the trade. He will be further obliged if such paragraphs be marked in all cases.

A Bad Investment.

Mr. J. W. Sutherland, pharmaceutical chemist, of Dumfries, was one of the witnesses to the charge against John Grunell, the company promoter who is alleged to have conspired with other persons to obtain from various investors sums of money by selling them worthless shares in an Alliance Financial Corporation of which he was managing director. A retired grocer of Dumfries had bought the shares in the first place for 125%, on the strength of certain representations made to him. Mr. Sutherland bought the shares from him for 135%, and had subsequently bought other shares from the corporation direct. Mr. Sutherland gave evidence at the South-Western (London) Police Court last week.

French News.

(From our Paris Correspondent.)

MILITARY SERVICE OF PHARMACY STUDENTS.—The pharmacy students of the Army Reserve, who are to be called up this year for twenty-eight days' instruction, will be employed in the military hospitals during the whole of that time, and will not be subject to any other form of training. The measure is thought to be rational, as the students will in this way learn the service expected of them in case of mobilisation.

ILLEGAL PHARMACY.—The Alger Syndicate of Pharmacists have issued a note to the effect that they recently sum-

moned two druggists of their town for illegal practice of pharmacy, who had offered for sale certain articles, such as sulphate of quinine (in bottles), tincture of iodine, liquid extract of cinchona, sulphate of magnesia, &c. The defendants, however, asked to arrange the matter out of court, and agreed to pay 500f. (20%) each, together with costs. They also acknowledged the truth of the charge in writing, and undertook not to offend again.

A MAYOR PHARMACIEN.—The ex-Mayor of Gien, M. Merry, a pharmacist of that town, who was sentenced some months ago to prison for fraudulent practices in the supply of drugs to a hospital, is not yet lost to fame. The Radicals who had associated their political fortune with his have not abandoned him. Their efforts have resulted in M. Merry being elected at the head of the poll in the recent elections for the General Council of his department and this in spite of the fact that the ex-Mayor has been deprived of his own rights as an elector. The Radicals are proud of the success of their candidate, who, they say, has been "molested by justice."

A BITER BITTEN.—One of the Paris Police Courts has just condemned five men to various terms of imprisonment for "manufacturing explosive engines." They had formed a plot for blowing up the gendarmerie station at Asnières with a bomb, but were arrested when proceeding to carry out their design. One of the prisoners, named Jourdain, formerly a laboratory assistant in a pharmacy, had supplied the chlorate of potash required for the bomb, and was afterwards instrumental in giving evidence to the police, for which he received 3f. As, however, he has been sentenced to four years' imprisonment for his participation in the plot, he probably thinks the balance comes out on the wrong side.

A SINGING PHARMACIEN.—Street-singing seems likely to become a popular form of obtaining notoriety over here since Eugénie Buffet has had such a success by her serenades. One of her imitators, a man named Lacour, has, however, been consigned to the police station instead of spending the summer at the Normandy watering-places. Lacour gave himself out to be a pharmacy student, and induced two other students to arrange to accompany him on a singing-tour. The money thus collected was to be devoted to the formation of a society to be called "The Friendly Union of French Students," with a view of assisting impecunious scholars. As the three associates were on the point of starting, however, Lacour was arrested by M. Archer, Police Commissary, on a charge of embezzlement. The would-be singer's knowledge of pharmacy was confined, it transpired, to pilfering in laboratories where he had been employed as a porter.

A SIMULATOR.—A man named Pierre Delanvy, who has just been condemned to four years' imprisonment at the Paris Court of Assizes for simulating illness, succeeded for some years in deceiving many of the leading French specialists, and was admitted into no fewer than eight different hospitals. Delanvy had been employed as an attendant in one of the Paris Hospitals, and found he could simulate ataxy to perfection. In 1889 he went to Lourdes, arriving there on crutches, and his marvellous cure was the admiration of the pilgrims and the joy of the priests. It also brought him an easy situation there. Faith in him was, however, destroyed when he disappeared one night with a considerable sum of money. He soon after appeared at the Broussais Hospital as an alcoholic patient, and afterwards at the St. Anne Hospital with a certificate of mental debility. From the latter place he stole 1,800f. belonging to the chief pharmacien, M. de Guesneville, and this led to his arrest five months later.

WHITE PHOSPHORUS AND THE MANUFACTURE OF MATCHES.—In view of the researches that have been made at the instigation of the French Government with the object of finding a substitute for white phosphorus for the manufacture of matches, M. Schloesing has devoted himself specially to the subject, and gave the result of his experiments at a meeting of the Academy of Sciences last Monday. The difficulty, he says, is to find a composition for matches that can be lighted anywhere without a special striker, and directly white phosphorus is abandoned, which is too injurious to the workers in match-manufactories, it is necessary to use an explosive mixture. He seems to have encountered considerable difficulty, and an explosion that

occurred during his experiments nearly cost him the loss of a finger, as well as of his eyesight. This was brought about while preparing a substance for matches composed of chlorate of potash as an explosive, while for a combustible he was trying red phosphorus, ore of antimony, or hyposulphite of lead, with gum. The result was an excellent match from a hygienic point of view, but they took fire too easily. In concluding, M. Schloesing was obliged to admit that the complete solution of the match-problem has yet to be solved.

TRADING UNDER AN ASSUMED NAME.—M. G. Bogelot, counsel to the Syndical Chamber of Pharmacists of Paris and the Seine, reports a prosecution in a case of an assumed name in which he was recently engaged. In the instance in question, the Pharmacists' Syndicate of the Somme Department brought an action at Abbeville against a pharmacist's assistant of that town, who had held a situation there for some years. The defendant wanted to go into business on his own account, and went up for an examination, but failed. He thereupon decided to do without his diploma, and opened an officine in Abbeville in January last. After various negotiations to find a pharmacist willing to sell the use of his diploma, the defendant was driven into a corner by the engagements he had taken with regard to his business, and finally came to an arrangement with a Paris pharmacist, who went to Abbeville for the purpose of having the pharmacy registered in his name. The defendant greatly committed himself by wishing to Messrs. Darasse, manufacturers of pharmaceutical products, in February, 1895, requesting them to address their invoices to M. Ch—— (the Paris pharmacist who had sold the use of his diploma), adding, "It is useless to take information, as you may consider the credit as given to myself, and I undertake to pay." M. Ch—— used to go to Abbeville occasionally for the sake of appearances, but the length of his visits was never of sufficient duration to make his presence a guarantee for the proper dispensing of prescriptions. Judgment was given against the defendant, with a fine of 500*fr.* and the costs of the case. The Pharmacists' Syndicate was awarded 100*fr.* damages, and the incriminated officine was ordered to be closed. Appeal has been entered by the defendant, and also by the prosecution; by the latter on the ground that the damages are insufficient, and that sufficient publicity has not been given to the judgment.

Foreign and Colonial News.

MANCHURIA OPIUM.—The consumption of Indian opium Newchwang has in the course of twenty-one years fallen from 323,813 lbs. to 9,467 lbs. This is entirely due to the native drug being used. It is cheaper if not better. Mr. Alex. Hosie, our Consul there, states that the number of smokers is increasing day by day, and Manchuria continues to supply the wants of all her inhabitants, and to export considerable quantities of the native drug.

OL. MORRHUE SINE GADUOL.—The *Druggists' Circular* reports, in consequence of the appearance of cheap cod-liver oil and demand for second-hand barrels in New York, that after various things grouped together under the name of "gaduol" have been extracted from cod-liver oil, the oil has been disposed of as refuse, and found its way back into market again through other hands. Previously it has been stated (*C. & D.*, March 9, page 337) that the empty barrels were for Newfoundland oil.

CO-OPERATIVE PHARMACIES IN BELGIUM.—The "Société Co-operative Liégeoise des pharmacies populaires" has lately opened in Liège a third popular pharmacy on "mutualist" principles. The society was constituted on May 2, 1835 with a capital of 10,450 francs, and opened its first popular pharmacy in September of that year. The establishments are stated to have been very successful, and the newest one is described as one of the handsomest in the city. A fourth establishment is in contemplation.

U.S. ARMY DRUG-CONTRACTS.—The medicines for the Indian service are, like those for other branches, supplied by contract—firms sending in bids or tenders. These have recently been opened at Chicago, the firms bidding being

the Moffett-West Drug Company, Pa. ke, Davis & Co., John T. Plummer, Meyer Brothers' Drug Company, Chas. P. Noyes. The first-named have secured the contract for acids and a few other items, the second for fluid and solid extracts, hypodermic tablets and pills. Mr. Plummer takes the contract for tinctures. It is interesting to note some of the prices of chemicals and medicines other than preparations:—Acids: 472 oz. acetic, 1½*c.*; 140 oz. benzoic, 4½*c.*; 1,512 oz. boric, powdered, 2*c.*; 2,352 oz. carbolic, pure, crystallised, 1½*c.*, and so on. Oils: 76 oz. anise, 14*c.*; 268 oz. cloves, 6*c.*; 36 oz. croton, 8*c.*; 168 oz. lemon, 8*c.*; 129 oz. male fern, ethereal, 15½*c.*; 282 oz. peppermint, 13*c.*; 240 oz. sandalwood, 25*c.* Powdered drugs: 136 oz. aloes, 1½*c.*; 75 lbs. capsicum, 22½*c.*; 108 oz. ipecac, 9½*c.*; 92 oz. jalap, 3½*c.*; 272 oz. opium, 22½*c.*, and 720 oz. powder of opium, 5*c.* We cannot understand the last quotation, except it is a misprint for 25*c.*, or powdered dried tincture-marc.

HOW THEY DO IT AT DETROIT.—The Michigan Pharmaceutical Association can give the B.P.C. a few points in regard to the social side of things. The Association met in Detroit recently, when a company of 200 had a moonlight sail on the river and some dancing, &c. The eceteras included a cake walk, in which some forty couples participated, each one trying to emulate the coloured dancer in his popular effort. Next twenty-four couples entered for a waltzing contest, which was followed by a talking contest for ladies, but we are glad to hear there was no formal contest, the merits of the talkers being decided as they conversed with their friends. The most genial druggist in the State was next selected. He is Mr. C. N. Anderson, of Detroit. The crankiest one was declared to be Mr. Fred D. Stevens, and they gave him a dozen "liverettes." Mr. Earl Allen, Grand Rapids, was voted by the ladies the homeliest traveller, "homeliest" meaning the least beautiful; and Mr. W. D. Church, Detroit, got the prize as the most popular traveller. An egg-and-spoon race should have ended the entertainment, but the company had to choose the most agreeable lady after it, and this was done without eggs. Now, if Liverpool—but we forbear.

THE SICILIAN SULPHUR-INDUSTRY.—During the recent discussion in connection with the vote for the commercial and agricultural departments in the Italian Chamber of Deputies the condition of the Sicilian sulphur-industry was mentioned. Notwithstanding the fact that Sicily produces nearly four-fifths of the world's output of sulphur, and has practically a monopoly of the article, the sulphur-industry in Sicily has been long in a very precarious condition, and the price has fallen to about one-third of what it was twenty years ago, chiefly owing to the competition of the various mineowners among themselves, and to the fact that Sicilian sulphur is hardly any longer used in the manufacture of sulphuric acid. Against this diminished employment must be put the increased use of sulphur as a disinfectant, and in viticulture. At present there is an exceedingly heavy stock of sulphur in Sicily, and many mines have been compelled to cease operations, with the result that thousands of men are thrown out of work. The owners of sulphur-mines demand from the Government a reduction in the taxes, and the abolition of the export duty on sulphur. At the beginning of the year it appeared that a better time was in store for the industry, inasmuch as the Italian Government had promised to assist in forming a great sulphur monopoly and to establish a bounty on the exportation of the article. The Minister concerned, however, has not kept his promise in this respect, and on June 23 last a meeting of persons interested in the welfare of the sulphur-industry in Sicily passed a vote of censure on the Government. A few days later, when the vote for the Ministry of Commerce and Agriculture came up for discussion in the Chamber, a number of deputies of all parties demanded that Government aid should be promptly given to the industry. After a long debate, the Ministry of Commerce promised that prompt attention should be given to the matter.

ALLEGED INFRINGEMENT OF THE SANITAS TRADE-MARK.—The hearing of this case (the particulars of which we gave in our issue of August 10) was continued before Mr. Justice Connolly at Auckland, N.Z., on June 18, 19, and 21. Mr. Cotter, who appeared for the defendant, asked for a nonsuit on the grounds (1) that the plaintiffs could not

legally bring an action, (2) that the registration was open to attack. Only so long, counsel held, as a trade-mark was attached to a particular manufacture could the person registering it claim "property" in the mark. It did not exist outside its connections with the labelled manufacture. The trade-mark "Sanitas" attached to a pumice sand-soap, which the plaintiffs never made, could not touch the plaintiffs' property. His Honour declined to nonsuit, and Mr. Cotter opened for the defence. He said the defendant never saw any mark or label of the Sanitas Company, and had never made any attempt to pass off his goods as the plaintiffs'. Charles Ulrich, a commercial agent, said seventeen and a half years ago at Hokitika he had made a soap which he called "Sanitas Sand-soap." Ten years after he made a similar article in Auckland, afterwards selling his interest to the defendant. William Ogle, the defendant, said he had changed the name of the company on receipt of a lawyer's letter, as he did not want any false impression to exist. He believed there had been an offer to drop the use of the name "Sanitas" on payment of 40% for his costs. By trade he was an engineer. As to his knowledge of soap—well, he washed his face with it occasionally. Several witnesses gave evidence that they had never known anyone being misled by the name adopted by defendant. Mr. Robert Cross, chemist, of Wellington, gave rebutting evidence for the plaintiffs. His Honour, who reserved judgment, subsequently dismissed the action.—The Sanitas Company ask us to state that they are appealing against this decision.

Paraffined Paper.

THE *American Journal of Pharmacy* publishes an interesting note regarding the history of paraffined paper in America. It appears that the first one to use waxed paper in America was Mr. William Hodgson, a Philadelphia pharmacist, in 1854. He had got the idea from John Bell, the Oxford Street pharmacist. Mr. Hodgson used the paper between spread plasters, but it was not until 1865 that the true value of waxed paper began to be appreciated, and the increasing consumption of the article suggested to the firm of Mellor & Rittenhouse, of Philadelphia, the idea of manufacturing it. Paraffin was about this time beginning to claim attention, and this firm decided to substitute paraffin for the more costly beeswax, and, apart from the important saving effected, the greater beauty of the paraffin paper gave it enhanced value, and its use gradually extended to the wrapping of articles. It rapidly replaced waxed paper, but retained its name, so that what is intended to-day, when waxed paper is called for, is almost invariably the product prepared with paraffin.

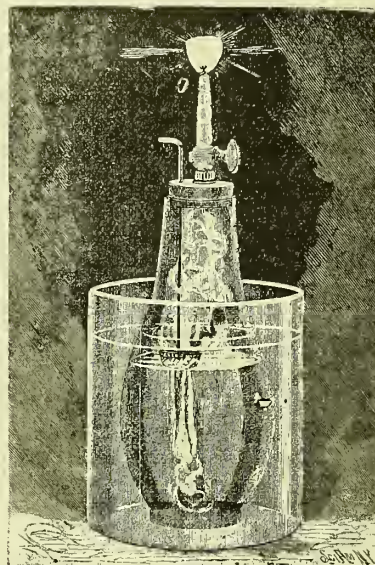
Shortly after its introduction its adaptability to the uses cited attracted the attention of confectioners, to whom the first sales were made. By them the paper was used for wrapping candies. The annual sale of the article at that time amounted to not more than \$150. In 1868 the originators exhibited samples of their manufacture at the annual meeting of the American Pharmaceutical Association at Philadelphia.

The process of manufacture at first employed consisted of impregnating with paraffin sheets of paper spread upon heated surfaces; but in 1877 the manufacturers invented a machine whereby the production could be more readily accomplished, and at the same time a company was organised for the purpose of developing the business.

As the product was never patented, nor its preparation held a secret, several firms quietly adopted the idea. Various machines for its production were patented, and for ten or twelve years almost incessant litigation for alleged infringement followed as the consequence. After spending much money and experiencing many disappointments in the delays and decisions of the Courts, the litigants finally concluded to harmonise and form a trust or some agreement whereby peace should prevail. Thus, from being a product of only a few hundred dollars' worth at the outset, paraffined paper has become a staple article, at least \$400,000 worth now being annually consumed. In 1889 there were, in various parts of the United States, six concerns, with an invested capital of \$100,000 to \$200,000, engaged in the manufacture of paraffined paper.

Experimental Acetylene Apparatus.

THE annexed is a reduced copy of an experimental apparatus which Dr. T. O'Connor Sloare, Ph.D., describes in the *Scientific American* for showing the acetylene flame on the small scale. A lamp-chimney and a battery-jar are the essential portions of the apparatus. To the top of the chimney a cork should be tightly fitted, and, if necessary



luted with paraffin. Through a central perforation a tube is inserted, fitted with a stop-cock and a small Bray's fishtail burner. Through a second hole in the cork a wire passes which moves up and down tightly. Its lower end is formed into a hook, to which is suspended a little basket made by bending up a little bit of coarse wire-gauze.

To start the apparatus the lamp-chimney is placed in the jar, water is poured in until within an inch or two of the top, and a piece of calcium carbide, half the size of a walnut, is placed in the basket, which is drawn up until pretty close to the cork. The cork is now placed in the lamp-chimney, and pressed down so as to make it fit tightly, and the wire slowly worked down until the basket becomes partially immersed in the water. The level of the water is at once depressed as the gas is evolved, and if the cock is open the air and gas within the chimney begin to escape. As soon as the odour of the escaping gas is strong, it can be lighted, and will burn for five or ten minutes with great steadiness. If the pressure decreases and the water rises, it comes in contact with the calcium carbide, more gas is evolved, and it falls again. A piece of glass-tubing, drawn to a point, will serve the purpose of a burner.

Venable and Clarke state that about 1 gramme of carbide placed in water will yield about 200 c.c. of acetylene.

SOSTRATA'S OPINION.—Mr. W. T. Martin, of Lewes, an anti-vaccinationist chemist, circulates as a leaflet the following translation of a passage from a Latin play represented some years ago at the Westminster School:—

SOSTRATA (*carrying a baby*): Listeu, you men! My grievance is far greater;
I am a mother, or, in Latin, "mater."
Behold this infant! Bless its little eyes!
Oh, did um smile and laugh, then precious prize!
It's only three months old. Yet soon the law
Will snatch it from me with its cruel claw;
Upon its arm some punctures will be scratched,
And in those punctures deadly venom hatched,
The doctor gets it from his brother calf—
But really 'tis no matter for a laugh;
If he shall dare scratch baby with his lancet,
I'll scratch his face—yes, that I will—and chance it!

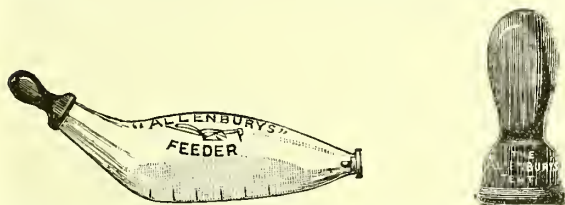
Trade Notes and Novelties.

LOOFAH SANDALS FOR BATHERS.

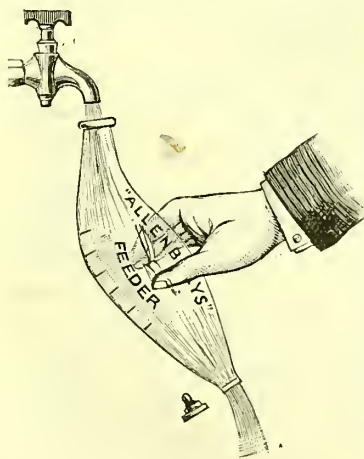
THESE sandals are being introduced to chemists by Barclay & Sons (Limited), 95 Farringdon Street. It certainly is something of an innovation to invite chemists to go into the shoe-trade, but the material in this case justifies the suggestion. There may be nothing like leather for dry-land shoes, but it is not suitable for walking on the ocean's floor, and there are many respects in which these loofah sandals are superior to the gutta-percha shoes generally used. They consist of a strong loofah sole bound round the edge, with net toes, and bright-red ties for fastening over the instep. They are very light and comfortable in wear, and soon dry after use. Ladies and children will enjoy their use when paddling or swimming. They can be sold at a low price with a satisfactory profit, and we are told that the chemists at seaside towns who have yet seen them stock them readily.

THE "ALLENBURYS" FEEDER.

MESSRS. ALLEN & HANBURYS (LIMITED), of Plough Court, E.C., have introduced a new infants' feeding-bottle, which they showed for the first time at the British Medical Museum; but we were unable to illustrate it then, and it will be seen that without the accompanying engravings the



distinct improvements which the firm have effected on the old-fashioned feeder are not brought out clearly. It will be noticed that the bottle is a double-necked one; the neck at the lower end is fitted with a new valve made of indiarubber, which is inserted like a cork, and permits air to go in, but



does not allow the milk to exude in the least. The teat, which we figure separately, is of such ample proportions that it can be turned outside-in for cleaning. The great advantage of the new bottle from the aseptic point of view is best shown by the third illustration, where the final rinsing of the bottle at the tap ensures that degree of purity which is necessary in infant-feeding. The bottle is graduated so as to facilitate the mixing of milk or other food with any proportion of diluent required. We have had an opportunity of testing the feeder, and find that it goes admirably, and its popular price (1s. net retail) ensures that it will go well in business.

SPLINT-PADDING.

WE mentioned in our report of the recent Medical Exhibition that the Liverpool Lint Company had introduced a new padding for splints. This we find, on further examination, to be composed of a thick layer of antiseptic cotton inserted between folds of soft gauze. The combination is well designed, and is a welcome addition to the surgical stock.

ARSENICAL TOILET-SOAP.

AT the present moment there is nothing so popular with the weekly papers for ladies as arsenical soap for the complexion. The kind particularly favoured is Dr. Mackenzie's, which is made by Mr. S. Harvey, Balham Hill, S.W. Arsenical wafers are also made by Mr. Harvey, and he desires the assistance of chemists and druggists in distributing these specialities to the army of damsels who desire to make themselves more beautiful. The soap is a fine one, and yields a good profit.

NEW MEDICATED SOAPS.

MESSRS. D. & W. GIBBS, of the City Soapworks, E.C., have introduced a series of excellent medicated soaps, which, we believe, will be gladly welcomed by English dermatologists and by the drug-trade. The basis of the soaps is the well-known "Cameo," which the late Erasmus Wilson liked so well, and with this basis the various medicaments are blended apparently by the milling process, so that they are not altered in the blending. For the use of surgeons in gynaecological and other practice the 20-per-cent. carbolic-acid and $\frac{1}{2}$ -per-cent. mercuric-chloride soaps will be most useful, and the same may be said of the 5-per-cent. eucalyptol. For ordinary retail trade we can recommend the following combinations as of peculiar value. As a head-scurf soap, No. 5, containing sulph. præcip., 5 per cent.; spt. camph., 5 per cent.; and bals. Peru, 3 per cent. This is followed with good results after a few days trial, and in some cases is more efficacious than the special shampoo-soap, No. 8, which contains acid. boric, 5 per cent. In cases where the hair has a tendency to fall off, as after an illness, the ichthyol and tar soap is a specific, and has a remarkable influence in promoting the growth of the hair. One of the soaps is specially named the "Freckle," and there should be a good sale for it just now. It contains sulph. præcip., 10 per cent.; sodæ bibor., 5 per cent.; and naphthol, $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. The whole series consists of eight soaps; but we imagine the firm will not stop there, for once chemists and physicians know that they can compound such preparations a demand for others will be made. We have but one improvement to suggest—viz., that substances like mercuric chloride should be mixed with lanoline before they are incorporated with the soap basis, so as to avoid as far as possible interaction with the soap.

It will be observed from an advertisement in this issue that Messrs. Cooper & Co., of South Kensington, the agents for Pinot's cachets, that these excellent products are offered to the trade at an exceptionally low price.

MR. MORITZ HIRSCHLER, of Budapest, the proprietor of the Franz Josef water, makes an important announcement in reference to the supply of that aperient water on the first white-paper page of this issue.

WE may remind competitors in the Camwal competition that the last week is at hand for the composition of the

essays for which the company is offering 10% in prizes. Particulars of the competition were given in the Camwal advertisement last week.

MR. HENRY C. QUELCH, of Ludgate Square, E.C., referring to our note of last week (page 288) on the "Non-Runaway" bandage suggested by Dr. Duke, of Leeds, and produced by Messrs. Reynolds & Branson, sends a bandage with an exactly similar attachment. Mr. Quelch states that he applied for a patent for this idea in April, 1894. He is evidently entitled to priority in this invention, but he found when he wished to go further with it that the Coventry tape manufacturers were before him; indeed, the idea is well known to housewives.

Personalities.

MR. C. E. EVANS, chemist and druggist, Moretonhampstead, has been elected a member of the local School Board.

AMONG the names omitted in the key-block of the Pharmaceutical Conference picture published last week may be mentioned 103 and 105—Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Everson, London.

MR. J. HARVIE, chemist, Airdrie, at the inauguration ceremony last week described in detail the construction of a handsome new secondary school which has been recently erected in that town. Mr. Harvie was the convener of the committee.

MR. WILLIAM THORP, B.Sc., for many years chief of the chemical staff of Berger & Sons (Limited), Homerton, has resigned that position, but continues to act as consulting adviser to the firm. Mr. Thorp's literary labours have lately been on the increase, and the greater leisure will enable him to push forward the technological work which he is editing in association with Mr. Chas. E. Groves, F.R.S.

Business Changes.

MR. ALFRED MUMFORD, pharmaceutical chemist, who for thirty-two years was with Messrs. Randall & Son, Southampton, has bought Mr. Edwin Stubbs's business at High Street, Emsworth.

MR. J. T. BUTTERWORTH has disposed of his business at 24 Manchester Road, Burnley, to Mr. Charles E. Dodsley, of Huddersfield, who has been with Messrs. Needham Brothers, Buxton Road.

MR. H. W. BARFORD, of Manchester, formerly for some years with Messrs. H. Roberts & Co., of Florence and Rome, and Messrs. Roberts & Co., of Paris and London, has purchased the business of Messrs. Gihls & Gurnell, Ryde, I.W.

THE prescription-books hitherto used by Mr. Herbert Ray, chemist and druggist, Cecil Square, Margate, and Mr. J. Bristed, chemist and druggist, High Street, Margate, have been purchased by Mr. D. T. Evans, chemist and druggist, 1 High Street, and 12 Cliff Terrace, Cliftonville, Margate.

THE Sanitas Company (Limited) have taken a double-fronted shop at 29 Queen Victoria Street, E.C., and are fitting it up as City offices. The company expect to make a display of their goods in the office when the fittings are complete, and they will also be able to fill small City orders, the large orders continuing to be sent out from Bethnal Green.

MR. CARTER, chemist, of Cross Street, Woolwich, has taken over the business formerly in the occupation of Messrs. Ettles & Son, 11 Green's End, Woolwich. The business, which dates back to 1794, was, before being taken by Messrs. Ettles, in the hands of Mr. F. Barry, and before that belonged to Mr. Parkes. Mr. Carter has purchased with the business the prescription and recipe books and the photographic branch of the business.

Marriages.

NICOL—McTAGGART.—At 30 Berkeley Terrace, Glasgow, on August 14, by the Rev. Ed. Last, William Nicol, chemist, Glasgow and Hamilton, to Barbara Brodie, third daughter of Mr. Dugald McTaggart, 110 New City Road, Glasgow.

TUPMAN—WILLIAMS.—On August 8, in the Tabernacle, Wotton-under-Edge, by the Rev. T. Williams, B.A., of Aberystwith, uncle of the bride, Herbert Wyke Tupman, pharmaceutical chemist, Worthing, to Kate Margaret, eldest daughter of the Rev. J. Williams, B.A., of the Tabernacle, Wotton-under-Edge, Gloucestershire.

WILLIAMS—SMITH (Silver Wedding).—On August 20, 1870, at St. Paul's, London, William F. Williams (chemist, Longfleet), of Bexley Heath, to Louise, daughter of Mr. H. J. Smith, Aubyn Lodge, Bexley Heath, Kent.

Deaths.

HAYWARD.—The death has occurred of Mrs. Hayward, widow of Mr. W. H. Hayward, who was for a great many years in business as a chemist and druggist at Trowbridge.

HOLLOWAY.—On August 13, at Cologne, Sir George Martin-Holloway. Aged 62 years. Sir G. M. Holloway was one of the executors of the will of the late Thomas Holloway, in association with his brother-in-law, Mr. Driver-Holloway, and these two gentlemen became the proprietors of the famous patent-medicine business which Thomas Holloway had built up. In the later years of Thomas Holloway's life, Mr. Martin, as he then was, was his constant companion. He had married a sister of Mr. Holloway's wife, and Mr. Driver was a brother of these ladies. Mr. Holloway, it will be remembered, built and endowed the Women's College at Egham and the Sanatorium at Virginia Water at a cost of about 1,500,000%. All the rest of his fortune he left to his sister-in-law, Miss Driver, and she seems to have given the business to her brother and her brother-in-law, the gentleman who has just died. Mr. Driver-Holloway has been the active manager of the Oxford Street establishment. Sir G. Martin-Holloway was knighted in 1887, as a sort of royal acknowledgment of Mr. Holloway's magnificent gift to the nation, he being the senior surviving representative of the benefactor. Sir G. Martin-Holloway resided at Tittenhurst, Sunninghill, Berkshire, in the house which Mr. Holloway had occupied. He leaves a widow and a married daughter. He had been staying for some time at Carlsbad, and when taken ill at Cologne was on his way home. His body was brought to England for burial.

PRICHARD.—On July 29, Edward Prichard, chemist and druggist, London. Aged 67.

Gazette.

PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

Berlyn, A., and Britten, A., under the style of Berlyn & Britten, Birmingham and Stratford-upon-Avon, dental surgeons.

Butterfield, F., and Hyde, P. C., under the style of Hyde & Co., Manchester, surgical-instrument makers.

Hornibrook, C. M., and Gates, H. H., under the style of Gates & Hornibrook, Victoria Steam Mills, Fairclough Street, Backchurch Lane, Commercial Road, E., drug, grist, and spice grinders, and also mica, coal-dust, charcoal, plumbago, and fullers'-earth merchants and grinders.

Pilley, S., and Pilley, H. T., under the style of S. Pilley & Son, Boston, chemists and druggists.

THE BANKRUPTCY ACTS, 1883 AND 1890.

RECEIVING ORDER.

Green, Henry, Birmingham, drysalter.

The following amended notice is substituted for that published in the "London Gazette" of August 9, 1895:—

Mould, Charles, Ashton-under-Lyne, lately carrying on business in co-partnership with William Johnson, Blackburn, under the respective styles of Charles Mould, chemist, and Mould & Johnson, as wholesale drysalters, chemist's assistant.

ADJUDICATIONS

Ford, Alfred, Bloxwich, mineral-water manufacturer.

Turner, Robert Breen, Carnarvon, dentist.

Legal Reports.

THE POSSESSIVE CASE.

MR. HANNAY heard a summons at the Marylebone Police Court on August 15 taken out by the Inland Revenue authorities against George James Knight, chemist and druggist, of 452 Edgware Road, for exposing for sale a bottle of solution of cod liver oil in malt extract, which was a patent medicine, and therefore liable to stamp-duty, without a label provided by the Commissioners of Inland Revenue.

It was stated for the prosecution that on March 22 a Revenue officer called at the defendant's shop and asked for a bottle of the solution in question, which stood upon the counter. The bottle bore two labels, one bearing the words, "Windle's Solution of Cod-liver Oil, &c.," and the other warning the public that "No preparations are genuine unless protected by this label, a counterfeit of which is a forgery." The bottle was taken behind a screen, and when delivered to the officer was wrapped up in paper. Subsequently, when the officer examined the bottle, he discovered that the "s" in the name "Windle's" had been erased prior to the bottle being handed to him in the shop. This was done, it was said, in consequence of a correspondence the defendant had had with the Inland Revenue some time since, when he was informed that the use of the possessive case rendered him liable to be called upon to pay stamp-duty.

Mr. Clay, solicitor, who appeared for the defence, said his client used the name Windle in the possessive case upon almost every article he sold, and he had no intention whatever of conveying the impression that he had a proprietary right to those articles. The erasure of the "s" from the label of the bottle in question took place a considerable time ago.

Mr. Hannay decided that the case had been clearly proved, and imposed a fine of 3*l.* 3*s.* and 2*s.* costs.

THE LIABILITIES OF AGENTS.

At the Longton County Court, on Tuesday, before Judge Jordan, Messrs. H. R. Radcliffe & Co., of Longton, sued Messrs. Bnshell & Co., who carry on the Cambrian Brush Works, Swansea, to recover the sum of 12*l.* 13*s.* 2*d.*, alleged to have been received by them as agents for the plaintiffs. It was stated, for the plaintiffs, that the defendants acted as their agents in the West of England and South Wales; the defendants were also authorised to collect moneys due, on behalf of the plaintiffs. In January last the defendants wrote to the plaintiffs requesting them to insert in their invoices and accounts, "All accounts to be paid direct to the firm," and that the plaintiffs did. In the meantime, a sub-agent in the employ of the defendants collected several accounts owing to the plaintiffs, and subsequently disappeared with the money. The plaintiffs now sought to make the defendants responsible for the conduct of their agent.

Mr. Bashell, the plaintiffs' agent, said he appointed the sub-agent Hearne for the sale of goods only, and not for the purpose of collecting cash. The only intimation he had received that the sub-agent had collected cash was from the plaintiffs themselves.

Eventually, his Honour said the plaintiffs had not proved that the defendants had received the money, therefore they could not sue them for moneys they had not received. Upon the evidence before him he could not say if the customers had paid the sub-agent or not, therefore he made no aspersions on the character of the sub-agent.

Judgment was given for the defendants, with costs, accordingly.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

ANALYSTS DISAGREE.

At Dewsbury, on August 19, William Waterhouse, farmer, of Liversedge, was charged, at the instance of the County Council, with selling adulterated milk. The certificate of Mr. Allen, the County Council Analyst, was that the milk

contained 10 per cent. of added water, and Mr. Allen gave evidence to this effect; but Mr. Rimmington, Public Analyst of Bradford, was called, and deposed that he found the milk pure, but of a poor quality. The defendant called evidence with the object of showing that no water had been added, and the Bench dismissed the case.

Bankruptcy Reports.

Re RICHARD WATKINS, 14 Vaughan Street, Llanelly, Chemist and Druggist.

AT the adjourned examination of this debtor, held at Carmarthen on August 14, it transpired that his net liabilities amounted to 1,303*l.* 1*s.* 2*d.*; deficiency, 1,054*l.* 14*s.* 9*d.* His failure was said to be due to want of capital, bad trade, interest demanded on borrowed money, and ill health. In 1892 he commenced business with a borrowed capital of 500*l.* His accounts were very imperfect, and his deficiency was considered by the Official Receiver to be large, when it is considered that he had traded for less than three years. The additional particulars which had been ordered were furnished, and the examination was closed.

Re ABRAHAM GOLDSBROUGH, Great Russell Street, Bradford, Herbalist and Patent-medicine Vendor.

THE statement of this debtor's affairs shows liabilities 761*l.* 8*s.* 9*d.*, and assets 33*l.* 4*s.* 2*d.* Debtor attributes his failure to loss of business consequent on the death of his wife, to an important part of which she gave her personal attention. Up to eight years ago he was a journeyman pattern-maker. The business was commenced by his wife several years before, and when he gave up his trade his wife's business was making 2*l.* a week profit. After his wife's death the business fell off, and the earnings did not meet the expenditure. He has no offer to make to his creditors, and his books of account are incomplete.

Trade-Marks Applied for.

ANY person who has good grounds of objection to the registration of any of the following marks should at once communicate with Sir Reader Mack, Comptroller-General, at the Patent Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

(From "The Trade Marks Journal," August 21, 1895.)

"BAMOGENE," and other wording on label; for cough-balsam for human use. By F. Bakes, 433 Thornton Road, Gillington Road, Bradford, Yorks, chemist. 187,846.

"OMOGO"; for an internal medicine for human use. By T. Pragnell, 18 St. George's Terrace, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

"ALBERT ALSTON," being signature of the applicant; for chemical substances used in manufactures, photography, &c. By Albert Alston, 9 Grimshove Street, Barnley, Lancs. 188,643.

"CINCOCA," and other wording on label; for a tonic-wine, containing the alkaloids of cinchona-bark and of the erythroxylin coca. By Goldthorpe & Cook, 70 Herbert Road, Plumstead, chemists. 188,087.

"DEPILENE"; for a depilatory for the removal of superfluous hairs, being a toilet article. By J. Turner & Co. (Limited), Chemical works, Queen's Ferry, Flintshire. 188,767.

Device of a girl upon globe; for mineral and aerated waters. By the Esculap Bister-water Company (Limited), 51 Farringdon Street, E.C. 183,757.

Diagram of hair-root and fat glands upon label; for a preparation for the hair. By C. A. Walter, 29 Charleville Road, West Kensington, London, W. 187,593.

Combination of devices upon label; for a toilet-preparation for the skin. By M. Beetham & Son, chemists, 22 Promenade Villas, Cheltenham. 188,870.

New Companies and Company News.

"SAUSALIA" (LIMITED).—Capital 6,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To enter into an agreement with Jacob H. Payne, M.P.S., to acquire provisional specification No. 8,550, of April 30, 1895, for a preparation known as "Sausalia," and to carry on business as manufacturing chemists and merchants. The first subscribers (each with one share) are:—J. H. Payne, Irchester, Northants, chemist; H. J. C. Sommerville, 43 Temple Chambers, E.C., merchant; J. A. Middlemiss, 44 Temple Chambers, E.C., accountant; W. F. Aldridge, 85 Hudleston Road, Tufnell Park, accountant; G. H. Huxter, 15 Albyn Road, St. John's, S.E., clerk; E. G. Crowe, Kingswear, Green Lanes, N., solicitor; A. Hulbert, 148 Whittington Road, Bowes Park, N., clerk. The first directors (to number not fewer than three nor more than five) are to be nominated by the subscribers. Qualification, 250*l.* Registered office, 43 and 44 Temple Chambers, E.C.

MOUNT GABRIEL BARYTES AND UMBER COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 10,000*l.*, in 5*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the business of mining carried on by Sir Raymond West, K.C.I.E., at Mount Gabriel, parish of Skull or Schull, co. Cork, Ireland, and elsewhere, and to buy, sell, manipulate, manufacture, export, and deal in ores, minerals, colours, paints, chemicals, metals, &c. The first subscribers (each with one share) are:—E. H. Pearse, merchant; G. Threlfall, engineer; G. Neill, 50 Fenchurch Street, E.C., engineer; C. Naish, N. Leigh, 10 Norfolk Street, Strand, solicitors; C. O. S. Cave, Grove House, Schull, co. Cork, mining manager; H. G. Campion, 23 Old Broad Street, E.C., solicitor. The first directors (to number not fewer than three nor more than seven) are Edgar H. Pearse, George Threlfall, and Norman Leigh. Qualification, 250*l.* Remuneration, 100*l.* each per annum, and 150*l.* for the chairman. Registered office, 50 Fenchurch Street, London, E.C.

TRINIDAD STRABONITE COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 10,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the right to manufacture, sell, and deal in a certain substance called "Strabonite," for the cure and prevention of phylloxera, and other vegetable and animal fungi or parasites. The first subscribers (each with one share) are:—A. O. Scott, solicitor, C. W. Jones, surveyor, and E. H. Bouchier, architect, all of 32 Great George Street, S.W.; C. Lempiere, D.C., D.L., St. John's College, Oxford; J. M. McDonnell, 14 York Road, West Norwood, solicitor; A. G. Weddell, Park House, Teddington, solicitor; V. Lambley, 35 Crondace Road, Fulham, clerk. Registered without articles of association.

"OXINE" (LIMITED).—Capital 20,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To manufacture in accordance with a special process, and to sell and deal in concentrated meat-essences, soup-tablets, meat-lozenges, and similar goods. The first subscribers (each with one share) are:—J. S. Rennick, Bond Court House, Walbrook, merchant; R. S. Gladstone, Avenue House, South Darenth, Kent, gentleman; A. King, 52 Crewdson Road, S.W., secretary; G. Hallett, 20 Bucklersbury, E.C., gentleman; W. Davison, 18 King's Arms Yard, E.C., accountant; W. H. Payne, 12 Walbrook, E.C., stationer; B. Huer, Ingleside, Edmonton, N., stationer. The first directors (to number not fewer than three nor more than seven) are to be appointed by the subscribers. Qualification, one share.

BLEASDALE (LIMITED), YORK.—The directors of this company have decided to pay an interim dividend at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, payable August 31.

C. S. S. A.—During the first half of this year the Civil Service Supply Association bought goods to the amount of 687,073*l.*, and sold to the amount of 800,877*l.*, leaving stock in hand valued at 292,013*l.* The gross profit was 117,365*l.*, and the working expenses 88,291*l.* The net balance for the half-year was 23,893*l.* The committee recommends the transfer of 1,500*l.* to reserve, 1,000*l.* to the pension and gratuity fund, and 250*l.* to the employés' provident fund, declaring a dividend of 12*s.* 8*d.* per share. At the meeting a shareholder will make a proposition in the direction of

further dividing the shares, which, because of their immense value, are unwieldy, and there will come resolutions from the Board to reform the system of attempting to compel customers to buy tickets.

BRUNNER, MOND & CO. (LIMITED).—The half-yearly report of Messrs. Brunner, Mond & Co. (Limited), alkali-manufacturers, Northwich, lately issued, shows a profit for the past half-year of 148,762*l.* 14*s.* 7*d.*, which, with 89,117*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.* brought forward from the previous half-year, makes a total of 237,880*l.* 10*s.* 1*d.* This the directors propose to deal with as follows:—Dividend on preference capital at 7 per cent., 15,225*l.*; dividend on the ordinary capital at 30 per cent., 129,856*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*; amount to be written off patents account, 2,500*l.*; balance to be carried forward, 90,299*l.* 7*s.* 7*d.* The directors have purchased the lands, works, and business of Murgatroyd's Ammonia, Soda, and Salt Syndicate (Limited), of Middlewich (exclusive of their salt-works and business), as a going concern, on advantageous terms. It is in contemplation to make a call of 1*l.* per share on the ordinary shares, now 2*l.* 10*s.* paid, to become due on October 1 next. The directors have resolved to offer for subscription, to the registered shareholders of this date, 6,000 7-per-cent. preference shares of 10*l.* each, part of the shares authorised to be issued by special resolution passed on February 20, 1893. They are offered at a premium of 7*l.* per share, and the amount received on account of the premiums will be placed to the credit of the reserve fund.

Practical Notes and Formulæ.

WART-POWDER.

The following is effective for removing warts:—

	Parts
Salicylic acid	5
Boric acid	15
Calomel	30

Mix and make into a fine powder. Put up in small glass tubes, with the direction to rub a small portion on the wart thrice daily.

AGAR-AGAR SUPPOSITORIES.

LOMULLER states in *L'Union Pharmaceutique* that agar-agar gives excellent glycerine suppositories—much superior to those made with gelatine. His formula is—

Agar-agar	10 grammes
Distilled water	30 "

Soften the agar-agar by steeping in the water, then apply heat, stirring vigorously and constantly, and add—

Glycerine	200 grammes
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Mix intimately and add any medicament required, and pour into moulds.

The suppositories are bright, translucent, less elastic than those made with gelatine, and come from the mould sharp and clean.

A NEW CONTINUOUS PERCOLATOR.

THE apparatus here figured consists of the percolator *a*, the mouth of which, *b*, is of small calibre, and *c* is a perforated glass plate ground to fit; the cover *e* is similarly ground, and the adapter *f* is attached to it, while this in its turn is connected with a condenser. In charging the percolator the perforated plate is first inserted and covered with filtering-paper, which is kept in its place by the tube *d*. The material to be extracted is then introduced with the menstruum, the cover placed on and connected with the condenser, and the outlet *b* inserted through a cork in a flask. The rest of the operation need not be explained. The apparatus is made by J. W. Rohrbach's successors, Vienna, and we take the description from the *Pharmaceutische Zeitung*.



Wills of Deceased Chemists.

The will of Mr. James Thyer, of 42 Chariot Street, Hull, chemist and druggist, who died on March 19 last, has been proved by Mrs. Jane Georgia Taylor, of 27 Hull Street, Hull, the sole executrix. The amount of the personality is sworn at 193*l.* 16*s.* 6*d.*

The will of Mr. Charles Harry Lockwood, of Ossett, chemist and druggist, who died on April 21, 1895, has been proved in London by Mr. T. P. Chatham, of Kingston-on-Hull, the surviving executor named therein, by whom the value of the testator's personality is sworn at 230*l.*

The will of Mr. George Day, of Maidenstone Hill, Greenwich, retired chemist and druggist, who died, a widower, on April 7 last, has been proved by Mr. Joseph Nicholls, of 17 Old Jewry Chambers, E.C., the sole executor, by whom the value of the testator's personal estate is sworn at 363*l.* 15*s.* 9*d.*

The will of the late Mr. Samuel Jessop Rhodes, of 38 Arthur Street, Penrith, chemist and druggist, formerly of Carlisle, who died on October 31, 1894, has been proved by Mr. David Murray, of London Road, Carlisle, the sole executor named therein. The value of the testator's personality is sworn at 129*l.* 19*s.*

Mr. William Forster Smith, of Billingborough, chemist and druggist and postmaster, who died on July 10, 1893, by his last will, dated November 16, 1892, named his daughter Ellen Annie as his sole executrix, to whom he bequeathed and devised all his property, real and personal. The personal portion is sworn at 1,289*l.* 0*s.* 6*d.*

The will, with one codicil, of Mr. Edmund Staples, of 10 Pembroke Terrace, North Street, Wilton, retired chemist and druggist, who died on December 10, 1894, has been proved in London by Mr. Geo. Jas. Carse, of Wilton, the sole executor therein named, by whom the value of the testator's personality is sworn at 1,616*l.* 15*s.* 11*d.*

Mr. Wm. E. Risdon Lowe, pharmaceutical chemist, of Stafford Street, Bond Street, having died intestate on February 28 last, letters of administration to his estate have been granted to his son, Mr. Wm. Francis Lowe, of 31 Station Road, Finchley—Mrs. M. A. S. Lowe, the widow, having renounced. The value of the personality is sworn at 823*l.* 13*s.* 5*d.*

The will of Mr. Rees Davies, of Caroline Street, Bridgend, Glamorganshire, retired chemist and druggist, who died on January 31, 1894, has been proved by Mr. John Thomas Davies, of Wallin Road, Swansea, chemist, the brother and sole executor, by whom the gross value of the testator's personality is sworn at 1,314*l.* 10*s.* 1*d.*, the net value being 965*l.* 0*s.* 4*d.*

The will of Mr. Phillips Spencer, 8 Roker Terrace, Roker, Durham, wholesale chemist and druggist, who died on March 21, 1895, has been proved by Mr. William Revely Gibson, of Newcastle, power being reserved to Mr. George Gavin Laidler to prove hereafter. The gross value of the testator's personality is sworn at 4,039*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.*, and the net at 4,009*l.* 6*s.* 2*d.*

The will of Mr. Wm. Price, of 11 William Street, Kingston-on-Hull, chemist and druggist, who died on January 3 last, has been proved by Mr. T. E. Linton, 4 Como Terrace, Romford, Essex, a nephew, and Miss L. M. Linton, of New Southgate, a niece, by whom the gross value of the personality is sworn at 2,517*l.* 19*s.* 6*d.*, and the net value at 2,200*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.*

The will of Mr. H. J. Manfull, of 83 Arkwright Street, Nottingham, chemist and druggist, who died on November 15, 1894, has been proved by Mrs. M. E. Manfull, the widow, and Mr. John A. Price, chief clerk of the Nottingham Probate Registry, the executors, by whom the gross value of the testator's personality is sworn at 366*l.* 0*s.* 8*d.*, the net value being 219*l.* 11*s.* 3*d.*

The will of Mr. Charles D. Piper, of 122 Fore Street, Exeter, chemical manager to Messrs. Evans, Gadd & Co., wholesale druggists, has been proved. The testator, who died on April 11 last, appointed his daughters, the Misses

Alice Ann and Emily Kate Piper, his executrices, and to them probate is granted. The value of the personality is sworn at 383*l.* 3*s.* 9*d.*

The will of Mr. James Earp, of High Street, Melbourne, Derbyshire, retired chemist and druggist, who died on March 1, 1894, has been proved by Mrs. Sarah Earp, the widow, and Messrs. Robert Parkes and Alfred John Collyer, both of Melbourne, the executors therein named, by whom the value of the personality of the testator is sworn at 2,779*l.* 2*s.* 9*d.*

The will, with one codicil, of Mr. John Prout, patent-medicine vendor, of 229 Strand, who died at his residence at Wanbush, Essex, on December 7, 1894, has been proved by Mr. Wm. Andrew Prout, of Sawbridgeworth, the son, and the Rev. Robert Jas. Walsh, of Wanbush, the son-in-law, the executors, by whom the value of the testator's personality is sworn at 9,322*l.* 17*s.* 8*d.*

The late Mr. William Henry Wood, chemist and druggist, of 145 Front Street, Arnold, Nottinghamshire, having died intestate, letters of administration to his estate have been granted to his widow, Mrs. A. R. Wood, her sureties being Mr. Uriah Wood, chemist's assistant, and Mr. Charles Crouch, both of Arnold. The value of the personality amounts to 218*l.* 14*s.* 11*d.*

The late Mr. W. Clarke Drew, pharmaceutical chemist, of 277 Borough High Street, having died on July 23, 1894, intestate and unmarried, letters of administration to his estate have been granted at the Principal Probate Registry to Mr. Beriah Drew, wholesale druggist, of 277 High Street, aforesaid, the deceased's father and next-of-kin, by whom the amount of the personality is sworn at 298*l.* 6*s.* 6*d.*

The will of Mr. Robert Correlli Pars, chemist and druggist, of Thrapston, Northamptonshire, a leading man in the district, who died on February 22 last, has been proved by Mr. Thos. Wm. Buckley, surgeon, of Thrapston, and Mr. Geo. Siddon, two of the executors—Mrs. Pars, the widow, having renounced. The gross value of the personality of the testator is sworn at 3,271*l.* 9*s.* 3*d.*, and the net at 3,179*l.* 16*s.* 9*d.*

The will of the late Mr. Thos. Pearce, chemist and druggist, retired, of 2 Brunswick Square, Gloucester, who died on January 13, 1895, has been proved by Mr. F. T. Pearce, of Lorraine House, Gloucester, a son, power being reserved to prove hereafter for Mr. Hy. Thos. Pearce, another son and executor nominate. The gross value of the testator's personality is sworn at 1,307*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*, and the net value at 1,272*l.* 15*s.*

The will of Mr. Rowland Dickinson, retired chemist and druggist, of Aylesbury, a member of the Local Board, who died on March 31, 1895, has been proved by Mr. George Butcher, of Tring, banker, and Mr. J. M. James, of Aylesbury, solicitor, the executors, by whom the gross value of the testator's personality is sworn at 10,238*l.* 7*s.* 1*d.*, the net value chargeable with death-duty under the new scale being 9,120*l.* 6*s.* 6*d.*

Mr. J. G. Clarke, of 14 Glasshouse Street, Nottingham, chemist and druggist, having died on March 24, 1893, intestate, letters of administration to his estate have been granted to his widow, Mrs. Emma Clarke, her co-sureties being Mr. John E. Clarke, of 14 Glasshouse Street, chemist and druggist, and Mr. George A. Clarke, of 6 Foundry Street, Bury, Lancs. The value of the deceased's personality amounted to 568*l.* 10*s.* 8*d.*

By the will of the late Mr. G. E. Smith, chemist and druggist, St. John's Grove, Wakefield, whose death was recorded in the last issue of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, his house and contents have been left to his wife (who was fifty to sixty years his junior) for use during her life, providing her a handsome income, which is left for her use whether she marries again or not. Mr. Alfred Green, who was with the deceased gentleman for a considerable time, has been left the business, stock-in-trade, and shop, together with adjoining premises. The rest of the estate, with the exception of 100*l.* left to one of the executors, Mr. H. Hall, goes to the nephews and nieces, who come into the remainder of the estate on the death of Mrs. Smith. The value of the estate is between 50,000*l.* and 60,000*l.*

The Experiences of a Welsh Colliery District Chemist.



BECAUSE "Taffy was a Welshman," it does not follow that he was a thief. If the verse implies that he was so because he was a Welshman, it is, I think, an unjustifiable libel upon a people whom I have found generally honest, straightforward, and, above all, generous. Established twenty-two years as a chemist and druggist in a populous centre of a Welsh coal-field, I have had ample opportunities of studying the character and disposition of

the Welsh hewer of black diamonds, and perhaps a few of my experiences may be found interesting.

I have still a vivid recollection of the first customer who presented himself before my counter, from behind which I served him with two-pennyworth of camphor. He was a genuine son of the mine—a great, Herculean looking fellow, with a face almost mapped in "blue lines," which are the distinguishing marks of the collier.

"Give us tuppence'orth of camphor for the missus," he said in Welshy English, throwing two coppers on to the counter, and turning the tobacco-quid in his cheek.

"You are troubled with moths?" I ventured to remark, as I weighed out the camphor.

"Yes, indeed; we was troubled in the drawers with them," he replied, deliberately expectorating a stream of tobacco-juice halfway across the shop.

Having handed him his purchase, he made a move towards the door; but, suddenly stopping as if remembering something, he turned round again, and advanced to the counter.

"Mister," he said, in almost a whisper, as he inclined his head to within an inch or two of my face, "will this"—holding up the camphor between his thumb and forefinger—"kill—a dog?"

What a relief! His manner was so mysterious, I thought he had murdered designs on some fellow-creature; but, upon hearing that it was only a dog who was the prospective victim, I once more breathed freely.

"Well, let's have something strong to do him off," he said, when I told him that the camphor would be useless for such a purpose; and, upon his signing his name in the poison-book, I supplied him with a dose of strychnine, which he carefully placed in his vest-pocket, and departed.

One winter's afternoon, during the passing of a funeral, one of the undertaker's men, just as the hearse got opposite my premises, fell out from his place alongside, and, rushing into the shop, hurriedly asked for an ounce of "peppermint-lozenges, to take bad smells away." I hazarded an inquiry as to whether it was an efficient antidote in the case of obnoxious odours.

"Nothing like 'em, sir, for corpse and grave smells," he replied, as he clutched the package and bounded after the funeral.

A queer experience befel me one Christmas Day. Rather late at night there was a violent ringing of my night-bell, followed by a vigorous kicking at the door.

Hastening down to the shop, I undid the door, whereupon a well-dressed young man, in a state of helpless intoxication, tumbled backwards into my arms.

From his utter helplessness I knew it would have been impossible for him to have rung the bell and kicked at the door; he had evidently been placed against the door by some friends who, after ringing me up, made a hasty retreat.

Laying him at full length on the floor, I was proceeding to unbutton his collar and shirt, when a loosely-tied package of papers fell from his inside breast-pocket.

The package slipped out from the red tape in which it had been tied, and there appeared over two thousand pounds' worth of Bank of England notes. Under the circumstances I thought it wisest to communicate with the police. When

the local sergeant arrived, as soon as he saw the stranger, he uttered an exclamation in Welsh, at the same time holding up both hands with a despairing shrug of the shoulders.

Then, speaking in English, he told me that the young man was the only son of a wealthy colliery-proprietor living in the district. Within the last year or two he had become very intemperate, and when short of money to procure drink, thought nothing of appropriating large sums from his father's cash-box. On the sergeant's suggestion the father was sent for—a white-haired venerable-looking old gentleman, who drove up to the shop in a closed carriage, in which we placed the intoxicated son, who, it appeared, only a few hours ago had obtained possession of the keys belonging to the office safe, which he had opened, and from which he had abstracted the notes.

For my small share in this transaction I was presented by the grief-stricken father with a substantial bank-note, and invited to call and see him whenever I felt inclined.

I remember once, upon the occasion of a disastrous colliery explosion which occurred about two miles from my shop, and in which many lives were lost, a number of men carrying the mutilated body of a comrade between them, halting in front of my premises, and one of the party asking me to spare him a "few yards of linen to roll their dead mate in." As I did not profess to keep a draper's shop, and had only a small quantity of bandaging-material on hand, I was unable to comply with the pathetic request, which, made in such simple innocence, struck me as a very touching one.

The scenes I witnessed in connection with this terrible catastrophe are still indelibly engraven on my memory. For nearly a week—during which time the sad work of recovering the dead bodies from the pit where the explosion had occurred progressed unceasingly—my shop was besieged with customers, chiefly women, whose woe-begone faces showed the depth of their anguish. Scarcely knowing what they did, these poor people bought drugs, pills, ointments, and patent medicines indiscriminately, their all-absorbing idea being that they must prepare to the very utmost for the reception of those unfortunate relations who had been entombed in the mine, and whose return they hoped for with a tenacity which recognised no discouragement until long after.

The Welsh collier, whilst not being what may be termed an habitual drunkard, is just a trifle too partial to his "blue" of beer, of which beverage he imbibes somewhat freely on Saturday night, with the result that on the following morning he wakes with a racking headache and a disposition towards biliousness. As such a state of bodily inconvenience would prevent him from attending "chapel"—for the Welsh collier is generally religious—he needs a "pick-me-up" to set him "square," as he calls it, before facing his pastor and fellow-worshippers.

Accordingly, he rings me up early on Sunday morning, and for 6d. I supply him with the needful tonic, of which past experience has taught me to make up a stock on Saturday night.

One more "experience" and I have done. Four years ago, at the close of an exceptionally hot summer day, a tall haggard-looking man carrying a small crate of ferns over his shoulders, walked into my shop, and producing a five-shilling piece, threw it on the counter with the request for "five bobs' worth of the worst poison made." I felt sure the man was insane, and fearing he might become violent if his wishes were denied, I decided to humour him; so, making up a large packet of sherbet, I labelled it "Poison," and handed it to him. As he took it, a wild triumphant gleam shone in his eyes, and before I could divine his intention he had torn a large hole in the package, held it above his wide-open mouth and allowed a quantity to run down his throat.

Then, turning towards the door, he rushed frantically out, shouting and gesticulating wildly. Quickly following him, I made for the police-station; and soon afterwards two constables were in hot pursuit after him. But he was only captured and secured after a terrible and sanguinary struggle, in which all three were severely injured.

Some days later the case was brought before the committee of the local asylum, and I received a letter warmly commending my action in the matter.

American Proprietary Formulae.

THE following, or their modifications, are to be had in almost every druggist's in the State of New York and elsewhere (similar preparations being pushed by dry-goods stores):—

Beef, Iron and Wine.

Ammon. citrate of iron	3½ oz.
Water	20 "
Aromatic elixir	1 gal.
Ext. of meat	4 oz.
Marsala, to	5 gals.

Dissolve, and let stand in demijohn exposed to light, shaking occasionally, for seven days; filter through charcoal.

Few put the extract in, as it is argued that it gets precipitated along with some colouring-matter and iron. 16 oz. flat bottles sell at 75c.

Coca-wine.

Claret	1 gal.
Cologne spt.	16 oz.
White sugar	1 lb.
Fl. ext. coca	4 oz.
Tinct. cudbear	q.s. to colour.

Add the spirit to the claret, to fortify it, as soon as it is opened; when all is ready, shake occasionally for seven days, and filter through charcoal.

Resembles vin. mariani, and is bottled after the same style.

Bijou Cleaning-fluid.

Ether	1 dr.
Chloroform	1 "
Alcohol	2 "
Methyl salicylate	½ "
Deodorised benzine, to	32 oz.

Directions same as benzene.

Wild-cherry and Tur Cough-balsam.

Tartar emetic	96 gr.
Sulphate of morphine	96 "
Fl. ext. ipecac.	8 dr.
Syr. prun. virg.	1½ gal.
Rect. spirit	1½ "
Ol. amygdal. essent.	40.
Pine-tar	1 oz.
Water	1 gal.

Heat the water, and stir the tar in it for about an hour, strain, and add to the other ingredients.

This preparation has an enormous sale; 2 oz in green glass panelled bottles, in fancy cartons, sells at 25c.

Emulsion (Cod-liver Oil), No. 1.

	Parts.
Clean gum-acacia powder	1
Water	2
Pale cod-liver oil	4

Mix gum and oil well, gradually add water, and flavour.

This is bottled by two rival Broadway stores, and was a great favourite with the late Dr. Loomis, N.Y. 16-oz flat oval, \$1. It is also put up with quinine and pepsin by them.

Emulsion (Cod liver Oil), No. 2.

Powdered acacia	3 dr.
Powdered tragacanth	3 "
Powdered starch	3 "
Cod-liver oil	24 oz.

Mix well and add gradually—

Water	18 oz.
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to emulsify; then add—

Syrup	6 oz.
Lime hypophosphite	2 dr.
Soda hypophosphite	2 "
Ol. amygdal. ess.	2½ drops.

The average druggist follows the National Formulary. 8-oz. panelled, 25c.; and 16 oz., 50c.

American Theatrical Cream.

White wax	3 oz.
Spermaceti	1½ "
Oil of benne	16 "
Conc. rose-water	6 "
.. orange flower	2 "
Powd. borax	2 dr.

Dissolve the borax in the water, set aside and heat almost to boiling-point before using, heat well on water-bath the oil after wax and spermaceti have been dissolved in it, place in a warmed pestle and mortar, then gradually add the hot borax solution, stirring briskly.

Unperfumed 75c. per lb., perfumed with ol. rose for cold cream or ess. ol. amygdal for almond cream, or by substituting the juice of pressed grated cucumbers for the water it takes the name of cucumber cream, &c.

Bug Dynamite, or Drop Dard.

Benzine	1 gal.
Alkanet-root	2 oz. to colour.

Put up in 8 oz. round long necked common bottles, tin sprinkler tied on the neck, price 20c.

Deodorised Benzene.

Benzine	1 gal.
Conc. sulphuric acid	½ lb.

Let stand a few days, shaking cautiously, pour off benzine and to it add 4 oz. dried slacked lime shake this up in it occasionally for twelve hours, decant and bottle; or deodorise by shaking with a small quantity of plumbate of sodium which can be made by dissolving freshly precipitated oxide of lead in caustic soda.

Does Advertising Pay?

THIS is what an Omaha druggist says in reply to that question:—"J. C. Ayer began life as a drug-clerk and advertising his Cherry Pectoral in a small way, but when he died he left a fortune estimated at \$15,000,000. C. I. Hood began 'that tired feeling' in a small way in 1870, and is now rated as a millionaire. A. B. Scott, of Scott & Bowne, was working at a moderate salary twenty years ago; to-day his firm is spending \$1,000,000 a year for advertising. Brent Good, proprietor of Carter's Little Liver Pills, started on a cash capital of \$840, and now cannot spend the money he is making. Judicious advertising has made it possible for Seabury & Johnson to spend annually \$500,000 on popularising their products, W. T. Hanson Company \$500,000 on Pink Pills for Pale People, and Wells, Richardson & Co. \$600,000 on Paine's Celery Compound. Dr. A. L. Helmbold was at one time a retail druggist in Philadelphia. He finally began the manufacture of his Buchu Compound, and put his entire surplus capital of \$2,000 into a contract for one month's advertising, and in a short time, comparatively, was enjoying a clear income of \$150,000 per year, besides spending as high as \$250,000 annually in advertising. A druggist who did not advertise was known in his town as 'Old Pill Box.' One time an invalid lady visiting in the village was taken sick, and desired a certain back-number patent medicine, which, after visiting the other drug-stores, she was unable to obtain. Finally, as a last resort, she called on 'Old Pill Box,' and after considerable search he found it in the cellar covered with dust and dirt, and made the sale, which pleased him so much that he secured a notice in his local paper, and paid for it in trade. This sold more of it, and he finally became converted to the idea of advertising, and to-day is a partner in a prosperous jobbing house."

THE *Liverpool Echo* perpetrates periodically a column of "Facts and Fancies" consisting of jokes and "wise words," the latter being alleged quotations from "standard authors." In its issue of August 19 the *Echo* quotes the late Rev. Ward Beecher thus:—"Let humour bedew duty. Let gaiety take charge of dullness. So employ these qualities that they shall be to life what carboic acid is to wine, making it foam and sparkle." We hope that the *Echo* man will take the pledge before the cup of wine "sparkling" with "carboic acid" comes round his way.

GOLD MEDALS 1884-1885-1886-1888.

"SANITAS" TRADE MARK.

DISINFECTANTS

"SANITAS" EUCALYPTUS PREPARATIONS.
 Kingzett's Sulphur Candles and Sulphugators,
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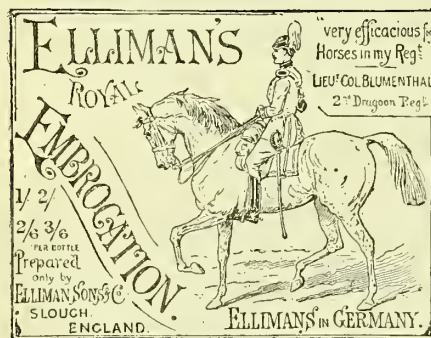
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Editorial

Comments

ANARCOTINE.

SIR WILLIAM ROBERTS, M.D., is endeavouring to revive
 therapeutic interest in narcotine, or, as he prefers to call it,
 anarcotine, because it is not a narcotic. It may be remem-
 bered that Derosne, who discovered narcotine, considered it
 the active principle of opium, hence the name; but better
 skill in the isolation and increased knowledge of the action
 of opium-bases have shifted the somnolent properties of the
 drug to morphine. Indeed, we have been taught, since

Battley's day, that it is a most desirable thing to get "narcotine" out of opium preparations, because it is the stuff that causes headache, and other undesirable symptoms. It is the old reputation of anarcotine as an antiperiodic which has riveted Sir William Roberts's attention, for while travelling through India as a member of the Opium Commission he heard a good deal about its efficacy in early days, when malarial fever was as rife as now, and quinine much more precious. Opium was then used successfully by the natives of India in the treatment of the scourge. Now, Indian opium contains more anarcotine than morphine. Sir William Roberts puts the percentage of the former at 6 as compared with 4 per cent. of morphine; but the two bases are generally found in about equal proportions (*vide THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST*, xxxix, page 613), 3 to 4 per cent. of each being the regular quantities. Indian opium does contain a higher percentage of narcotine than Turkey opium, and it was upon this fact that O'Shaughnessy made a series of experiments, the result of which went to show that the base was of value in the treatment of intermittent fevers. Thereupon the Government factories were requested to supply the alkaloid, and during the years of the quinine dearth, they sent out a ton of anarcotine, at the rate of $\frac{1}{2}$ -cwt. a year. Sir William Roberts, in his address to the Pharmacology Section of the British Medical Association, quoted clinical results obtained thirty to fifty years ago by Anglo-Indian physicians, all, of course, with favourable results, so far as the extinction of certain fevers is concerned; and there seems to be no doubt that opium succeeds often where quinine fails. But we should like more recent evidence in regard to the effects of anarcotine, because the alkaloid used in those far-back days was most probably a mixture. Indeed, we have good reason for stating that anarcotine has been quite recently tried in a leading London hospital, mainly in consequence of the Opium Commission's observations, and it has been found to be physiologically inert. This result is really supported by a note appended to Sir William Roberts's paper in which

Drs. Nusserwanji Surveyor and Vaughan Harley stated that they have tested anarcotine from the Government opium-factory at Patna, and find it perfectly insoluble and tasteless. Small doses produced no effect; 1 gramme caused vomiting in three out of four dogs, 0.5 gramme in one case out of two. When added to diet in quantities of 0.3 to 0.5 gramme it had no effect on temperature, respiration, or pulse; there was some slight increase in the water, in the faeces, and also in nitrogen unabsorbed. This led to a loss of weight, which was immediately regained on stopping the drug. Anarcotine chloride is very soluble, with an intensely bitter taste. One-gramme dose in three dogs *per os* caused no vomiting; in five dogs subcutaneous injection caused no vomiting or perceptible alterations in temperature. Anarcotine chloride was given subcutaneously to dogs under ether to investigate blood-pressure, rate of pulse, and respiration. Repeated doses of 0.3 to 0.5 gramme in two dogs caused no perceptible alteration in blood-pressure or respiration. In one dog, doses up to 4 grammes subcutaneously produced no effect on blood-pressure or respiration, and no signs of poisoning. The intense bitter taste would seem to indicate the drug as bitter tonic; its effects on leucocytes are now being examined.

This is not a hopeful report; indeed, it is astonishing that so eminent a therapist as Sir William Roberts should attempt to revive anarcotine on such slender evidence as he has. The fact that a drug is bitter is no evidence that it is an antiperiodic or a substitute for quinine. But that seems to be the only thing in common between anarcotine and quinine, and the marked chemical inertness of the former, if we may use the expression, is a strong indication of physiological inactivity. But if there is anything that the revival of interest in anarcotine may do, it is to clear up the old,

and we believe fallacious, notion that anarcotine is the headache-producing constituent of opium. This opinion arose forty or fifty years ago, when someone—Mr. Battley, we think—found that the removal of certain bodies, called "narcotine," from solution of opium gave a preparation of the drug which was better tolerated than a fresh tincture of opium. All that is wanted now is to prove that it is the removal of anarcotine that gives this beneficial result, or that the alkaloid is removed at all.

Anarcotine is one of the most peculiar of opium-bases. It is practically tasteless in the free state; but when it combines with acids, which it does with difficulty, the aqueous solutions of the salts are bitter. Some of these solutions are inclined to be viscous, a property exhibited by other opium-bases. There would be joy in Edinburgh, Southampton Row, and Devonshire Square if anarcotine were to catch on as codeine has done, for there are small mountains of it lying waste at present, and anyone who thinks there is a fortune in the stuff can get a few tons of the rough material at a low figure.

NEW PHARMACY ACT IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

THE pharmacists of British Columbia have succeeded this year in obtaining an amended Pharmacy Act, and they seem to be very well satisfied with their achievement. Their first Act was passed in 1891, and was based on the other Pharmacy Acts of the Dominion with a few features original to itself. These are all retained. One of the sections peculiar to the British Columbian Act declares that "any person who presents a prescription to any qualified druggist to be filled shall be entitled to have such prescription returned to him by the druggist." This authoritatively settles the question which has been debated in some regions—and we suppose it had assumed an acute form in British Columbia—of the ownership of a prescription. Another section empowers the Lieutenant-Governor to appoint a fit and proper person to be known as "public analyst," and who, it is stipulated, "must be a member of the Pharmaceutical Association." The Act does not make it clear what his duties are, and we are not aware whether the official contemplated has been appointed.

Another interesting peculiarity of the British Columbian Act is that its operation extends only to the limits of the incorporated cities or [and] towns of the Province, or [and] to one mile thereof. We gather that the Pharmaceutical Association of the Province has been trying to have the law made applicable to the whole of the country, but that in this it has failed.

The Pharmaceutical Association was created and incorporated by the 1891 Act, and power was given to it to administer the Act, and to hold examinations for the three grades which constitute the whole body. A Preliminary examination entitles the youth who passes it to a certificate as an apprentice. It appears to be a simpler examination than our Preliminary. A fee of \$2 is to be paid, and the candidate must be at least 14 years of age. A certified apprentice may not compound prescriptions or sell poisonous drugs, except under the direct supervision of a licentiate of pharmacy or a certified clerk. The Minor examination can only be passed two years or more after the Preliminary. The successful candidate pays \$10 and becomes a certified clerk. To become a Licentiate of Pharmacy—and only this grade can keep open shop for the sale of poisons—a period of four years from the first examination must have elapsed, and a more extended examination must be passed. The fee for this is \$20.

The Act states that "all persons approved of by the Board of Examiners who by examination have obtained

diplomas from the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, or certificates from any Pharmaceutical Association in the Dominion of Canada or elsewhere, whose standing and requirements are equal to those of the Pharmaceutical Association of British Columbia, may be registered as members of the Pharmaceutical Association of British Columbia without [passing] the examination prescribed by the said [? this] Act." They must also furnish certificates of good moral character, and of having attended two courses of not fewer than fifty lectures in chemistry, two similar courses in materia medica and pharmacy, and one in botany at the British Columbia School of Mines, or at some institution of equal standing. The by-laws of the Association provide, curiously, for the acceptance of certificates from other bodies in the case of the Minor examination, but not in respect to the Major examination.

All licentiates, certified clerks, and certified apprentices have to pay an annual subscription to the Association, the rates being fixed at present at \$8, \$4, and \$2 respectively.

The principal change effected by the 1895 amendment appears to be the requirement that medical men who wish to practise as chemists must be registered as such, must pay the subscription, and in all other respects conform with the requirements of the Act.

We notice, besides, that a few changes have been made in the Poisons Schedule. Chloral hydrate has been transferred from the second part to the first, and oil of tansy and "Rough on Rats," and rat-poisons have also been added to Part I.

The Pharmaceutical Association of British Columbia appears to be in a flourishing condition. Sixty-five subscribing licentiates are at present on its register, forty-eight of whom are in business on their own account. There are, besides, nineteen apprentices who subscribe. The Association has \$859 in hand. Mr. H. McDowell, who had been the President of the Association from its foundation, retired at the annual meeting in June last, and Mr. T. M. Henderson, of Victoria, has been chosen to succeed him.

ADULTERATION OF HONEY AND OLIVE OIL IN FRANCE.

INTERESTING letters have been exchanged between the French Minister of Agriculture and M. Naquet, the well-known deputy with a pharmaceutical experience, regarding the suppression of adulteration of certain articles of food, and especially of honey and of olive oil. M. Naquet had intended to interrogate the Minister in the Chamber on the subject, but the length of the discussion on the alcohol monopoly prevented this course. In his letter opening the question he draws attention to the fact that besides being used in pharmacy, and as an article of food, honey serves also for making gingerbread, as well as certain sweets and fermented liquors. Unfortunately, adulteration has caused the article to fall below its real value, and the industry of apiculture is threatened with ruin as a result. The deputy asks that, if there is no other means of preventing the fraud, a law should be passed prohibiting the adulteration of honey and olive oil, similar to those already existing in respect of wine, butter, &c. As regards olive oil, the most varied mixtures are now being sold under that name. M. Naquet suggests that the law should contain two penalties, one the most severe, against adulteration injurious to health, and the other for merely commercial falsification. In reply, the Minister draws attention to the fact that glucose syrup is the article most in use for adulterating honey. The scientific processes for discovering the fraud are, he says, well known, and it can always be detected by an expe-

rienced chemist. The law of Germinal, Year XI., and the decree of 1859, enable a Commission of competent men, chosen amongst members of the Council of Hygiene, to inspect the purity of products offered for sale by pharmacists, druggists, and grocers, at least once a year, and, in fact, as often as may be required. Prosecutions follow these inspections when necessary. Circulars are issued from the Ministry of Agriculture each year regarding any special articles that require particular attention, and a special note will be devoted to honey in the next issue. Similar protection is given to olive oil by a law passed in 1884. This trade is far more important than that of honey, and it has suffered much prejudice by the substitution of cotton, *colza*, nut, and other oils of inferior quality. It appears that in 1894 three chemists of high standing—M. Müntz, Professor at the Agronomical Institute; M. Milliau, Director of the Technical Laboratory at the Ministry of Agriculture; and M. Durand, Director of the Central Chemical Laboratory at the French Admiralty—made researches as to the processes to be employed for detecting adulteration in the various kinds of olive oil. They found that most of the old processes of analyses, based on colouring and on ordinary reactions, frequently gave inexact results. As an example, the pure Tunisian oils were on one occasion declared to be adulterated. The chemists in question found that the only true way to proceed was to test the oil after it had been filtered. They suggested a number of analytical processes. Amongst other points to be considered they mention the density, solubility in alcohol, the sulphuric acid reaction, the congealing and melting points, the saturation of the fatty acids, &c. Also the application of special tests, such as nitrate of silver, hydrochloric acid and sugar, &c. The reply of the Minister terminates by saying that the existing laws offer all possible guarantee, and if the suppression of fraud does not receive more support in the law courts, it is often due to the fact that the experts do not always bring forward certain and incontestable proof.

YEAST.

THE amount of yeast grown daily passes comprehension. According to Mr. Jago the largest manufacturers produce 10 tons of the compressed article per day; and when we think that all over the world at this moment—indeed, at every moment of time—yeast-cells are being forced to increase and multiply, it may be supposed that there is no living organism so numerous in multitude and so potent for good and evil as the humble yeast-plant. A ladleful of the "barm" is put into a vat of malt-mash; by-and-by a scum begins to form on the surface, and men are detailed to skim it off. This is the new generation of the yeast family, and the firstlings are found to be mixed with an abundance of other and deleterious ferments, which the brewer is careful to reject, although he may not hesitate to sell it as "barm" for bread-making or home-brewing, the result being tough and sour bread and ill-flavoured beer. The middle skimmings are the best "barm," and are what brewers and wise bakers esteem; while the tail skimmings are yeast-cells which have been starved of nitrogen, and are consequently poor ferments. The best "barm" of all is that which overflows from beer-casks during the final fermentation which some brewers know how to accomplish with advantage to their ale. The poorest yeasts are those yielded by brews containing much added sugar or glucose. In the manufacture of compressed yeast the collection of the ferment begins about twelve hours after fermentation has set in, and continues uninterruptedly for twelve hours

The skimmed yeast is first mixed with water, and is then passed through a series of mechanical sieves, by which the grains are removed. It is then washed by decantation two or three times, care being taken not to carry this process too far, otherwise the contents of the cells are weakened. It is again sifted through finer sieves. At the final decantation the young and weak cells come to the surface first, and are rejected; the remainder is collected, passed through a filter-press, and, as soon as it is dry enough, it is packed into packages, so as to prevent discoloration by air. Mr. Jago says that "eternal vigilance in the course of manufacture is the secret of excellence in compressed yeast." The addition of starch to it is unnecessary, as its sole object in earlier days was to absorb moisture now got rid of by the use of efficient filter-presses; nevertheless, 20 per cent. of starch—not more—is considered a desirable addition because the mixture formed is drier, and is easier handled. The use of this yeast alone for bread-making is not yet fully appreciated by bakers, who prefer to make their own "barns."

"WAX, OR WHATEVER IT MAY BE."

At a recent drug-auction in Mincing Lane a 147-lb. bag of a dull, grey sandy-looking substance catalogued as "Zanzibar wax" was offered for sale. Beeswax-buyers shook their heads, and the selling broker himself had his doubts about the lot, for he was careful to add before putting it up that he offered it as "wax, or whatever it may be." A venturesome person offered "five bob," another six, and so the bidding went on until some rash spirit, rushing in where others feared to tread, secured the lot at 47s. per cwt. The price of the usual Zanzibar wax of commerce is about three times that sum. Our representative, curious to know whether the buyer had secured a bargain or been bitten, obtained a sample of the stuff for examination. At first sight it was difficult to know what drug it was, the only pronounced character being the "agreeable honey-like odour." But the stuff turned out better than it looked. It contained 28 per cent. of extraneous matter in the shape of earth, hair, &c., the residue being good beeswax. The chloroform extract yielded a wax of good colour and with a melting-point of 143° F. The absence of hard paraffin was noted.

ANTI-BLUSH.

"What will stop blushing?" We do not remember how we have dealt with this question in our replies to correspondents, but we have just found the exact formula in a Birmingham paper. A local chemist during the last week or two has had quite a number of applications for acetic acid by young women. At length he was prompted to inquire what it was required for, and to his amazement learned that it was expected to stop blushing. A further question elicited the fact that the acetic acid had been recommended by one of those fearful and wonderful quacks whose recipes find the light of day side by side with cheap novelettes. Acetic acid certainly will produce paleness, but it is done at the expense of drawing a big cheque on the bank of health. There are enough pallid young women in big cities without adding to their number by silly practices.

JOHN'S GRATITUDE.

The *Chemist and Druggist of Australasia* reports a funny incident which had lately occurred at the Charters Towers Hospital. A Chiuaman, who had been treated there, and who wished to show his gratitude for the benefit he had received, but who, like Mr. Gilpin, "had a frugal mind," lately handed Mr. Fraser, the dispenser, a "donation" of several accounts owing to him for fruit and vegetables. The bills amounted to a few pounds, and in presenting them

John explained that he had been unable to collect the money himself, though he had tried hard to do so.

ARAROA FOR THE COMPLEXION.

We quoted last week from *Truth* a glowing recommendation of araroba as a cosmetic, and added a caution as to the stains which the drug would produce on the skin if applied externally. The editor of *Truth* is discreet enough to quote our warning, which we hope will be in time to save him from any action for damages for personal disfigurement. Since reading our note he says he has been looking anxiously about in every direction for fear of beholding some lady streaked with a "marked yellow to brown stain," and feeling that he was partially responsible for her piebald condition. "Let me implore every lady to be careful," he adds. Would it not be rather more to the purpose for the ladies to implore the editor to be careful?

THE NEMESIS OF ETHICS.

We have never been so thankful that pharmacists have not adopted a code of ethics as when we read the following paragraph in the *British Medical Journal* last week:—

Professionally annoying to honourable practitioners as such a sensationally erroneous report in the local press as that referred to would naturally be, we do not see what more our correspondent can reasonably be expected to do in vindication of himself and of the moral obligations devolving upon an ethically jealous faculty in view of the fact that he has not only interviewed the editor and protested against the objectionable article, but written a repudiating explanatory note to his local medical brethren. Such we deem to be professionally adequate for the incorrectly assumed ethically immoral proceeding of the practitioner in question.

This was a reply to a correspondent who was troubled about a newspaper paragraph. His friends are now consulting as to the surest way of keeping him from committing further incorrectly assumed ethically immoral proceedings.

At the Counter.

A LADY sends to a Stowmarket chemist for "one bottle of hearer re story."

"ROCK GUMGE HACKUM," "Pomegranate of potash," "Benner daller-plaster," and "Tincture of cention" are choice items from a Manchester collection.

THE following order was sent to a Birmingham chemist:—"Please to send one tupney worm powder for the round stummoc worms just turn 40 years of age." Our correspondent says he had not met with worms of that age before in any stummoc.

THESE are London customers:—"One Steedman's powder, please, with 'two disease' in it."

Customer: "Two penn'orth of 'automatic powder,' please." Chemist: "What, ma'am?" Customer: "Two penn'orth of 'automatic infection,' I think they call it."

BACHELOR'S Scent, Scotch Emulation, Pomegranate of Potash, Dalby's Communication for Children are counter inquiries at Bridlington Quay. The same correspondent reports the following:—Enter fashionable lady: "Er—I want some peroxide of hydrogen, please—10 fathoms." Suppressed a smile and handed over "10 vols."

THE CREOSOTE TREATMENT OF PHTHISIS has not been successful in everyone's hands. Dr. Alba, of Berlin, is convinced that the action of creosote is only sympathetic. The same improvements had been observed in cases where no drugs had been given, and the treatment had been only dietetic and hygienic.

Some Formosan Drugs.

By JOHN R. JACKSON, Curator of the Kew Museums.

THE recent movements in the Far East have been the cause of a good deal of speculation amongst politicians, geographers, and commercial men generally, and perhaps amongst none more than the dealer in drugs. The interest having been started with the camphor-supply it may well be extended to other products for which Formosa is noted. It is because the island and its resources are now so prominently before the world that we think a few notes on Formosan drugs may be of some interest to THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST readers. The active properties of a large number of vegetable drugs used in Formosa are more imaginary than real. A large amount of faith is required to be taken in combination with these medicines, and the old English doctrine of signatures is stretched to the extreme limits and fully believed in. The following notes are founded on a collection of vegetable medicines procured some time since—before the war—from druggists' shops in Tamsui. The notes are recorded haphazard, and no attempt has been made to classify them either according to their supposed virtues or scientifically according to their botanical nomenclature; indeed, the accuracy of the scientific names rest, in many cases, on a very slender basis:—

"Sang-pai-pi" (*Morus indica*, L.).—The bark of the root of this tree, in the form of infusion with hot water, is given in cases of affections of the throat and lungs, in blood-spitting, and in urinary obstruction.

"Wan-nien-sung."—This is described as a species of *Lycopodium*. The plant, which grows in cool, shady places near Tamsui, is collected, and sold in the druggists' shops as a tonic and astringent.

"Tie-ma-pien" (*Verbena officinalis*, L.).—The common name means "iron horse-whip," in allusion to the long spike that is left after the fall of the flowers. An infusion of the plant is used in Formosa to remove the aphthæ-like sores in the mouths of young babies. The plant is generally accredited in China as a blood-purifier, and is also supposed to have emmenagogue, anthelmintic, and antiscorbutic properties.

"Ch'è-ch'ien-tzu" (*Plantago major*, L.).—The small red-dish-black mucilaginous seeds are used as a diuretic, pectoral, and demulcent tonic.

"Ch'ien-li-kuang."—This is described as *Trifolium globosum*, and it is said to be a valuable remedy in affections of the eye.

"Fien-mên-tung" (*Asparagus lucidus*, Ldl.).—The fleshy, translucent, spindle-shaped tubers are, when dried, of a dirty yellowish-brown colour, and measure from two to five inches long. They are often strung on strings to facilitate drying, and are consequently met with so perforated. They have no smell and but little taste. They are used in chest and stomach affections, and are sometimes substituted for squills.

"Ma-ti'-chin" (*Dichondra repens*, Forst.).—This convolvulaceous plant is said to derive its common name from the resemblance of the leaves to a horse's hoof. It is much valued as a diuretic, and is also applied externally.

"Chin-pu-huan" (*Anomum* sp.).—The name indicates that this drug is a very costly one, and means "not exchanged for gold." The leaves are the parts used, and are said to have vulnerary, styptic, astringent, and discutient properties in a very high degree.

"Kou-chi-kên."—Probably the root of *Berberis Lycium*,

which is used as an antifebrile, antirheumatic, and tonic astringent.

"Hsia-ku-ts'ao" (*Celosia argentea*, L.).—A cosmopolitan plant, forming in many parts a troublesome weed. It is gathered by the Chinese and eaten as a vegetable. It is said to have cooling and antiscorbutic properties, and it is used as an anthelmintic, vulnerary, and tonic. It also has the reputation of clearing film from the eyes. The bruised seeds are stuffed into the nostrils in epistaxis.

"Jen-tung-t'êng" (*Lonicera Periclymenum*).—This plant—the honeysuckle—grows abundantly about Tamsui. The flower-stalks and leaves are much valued as a discutient or "draining" application to carbuncles, abscesses, swellings, and sores. Internally they are used as a drink or tincture in rheumatism, dropsy, syphilis, &c. The dried flowers as sold in Chinese shops are said to have a smell similar to tobacco.

"Jon-tou-hua," or "Tao-ton."—This is described as *Dolichos ensiformis*, but is probably *D. Lablab*, L. The flowers are said to have emmenagogue properties, the root is given in urinary complaints, and the pods are sometimes sold as a medicine.

"F'êng-wei-ts'ao."—This is the dried fronds of a fern, which are used to stop excessive flooding and other kinds of hæmorrhage. Its name is said to be derived from its resemblance to the leaves of a *Cycas*.

"Hua-erh-tzù" (the fruits of *Xanthium Strumarium*).—They are gathered by Chinese herbalists and used as a tonic, antiperiodic, and diuretic in skin-diseases, fevers, and in toothache. An extract prepared from the roots and leaves is considered an excellent remedy for ulcers, cancer, carbuncles, sores, and wounds.

"Pu-kung-ying."—This name is generally applied to the dandelion (*Taraxacum officinale*), but it is said to be also given to some other composite plants. It is principally used both topically and internally to disperse swellings, and is applied to bad teeth and snake-bites.

"Ta-fuh-p'i."—This is described as the fibrous husk of the areca-palm (*Areca Catechu*). It is used in flatulence, dropsical or obstructive diseases of the stomach, and in the preparation of detergent ointments.

"Pu-liu-hsing" (*Silene* sp.).—The plant is said to have demulcent properties, due to the saponine which it contains. The shoots of the plant, as well as the dark-reddish seeds, are said to be vulnerary, styptic, and diuretic, and are a common remedy taken by soldiers after injuries.

"Fien-hsien-t'êng."—This has been doubtfully identified with *Fibraurea tinctoria* a menispermaceous plant found in the Malay islands. It is used in flatulence and colic. The stems afford a yellow dye, which is said to be used with indigo to form one of the green dyes of China.

"Man-ching-tzù" (*Vitex* sp.).—The globular, berry-like fruits are used in "headache, catarrh, and watery-eye, and are said to promote the growth of the beard, which is the great object of the middle life of every Chinaman."

"Tzu-su-tzù."—This is said to be a species of *Melissa*, and is a very fragrant plant. It is used as a warm stimulant, carminative, and tonic.

"Sh'è-kan" (*Belamcanda punctata*).—The rhizomes of this plant, which are of a dark colour externally and of a chrome-yellow internally, have an acrid taste when fresh, and are valued as an expectorant, deobstruent, carminative, and diuretic. It is a popular medicine in diseases of the throat.

"F'êng-t'êng" (*Piper Futokadsura*).—The common name is rendered as leprosy rattan. It is used in the treatment of numbness of any part of the body, and in arthritic affections and acute colic.

"Tan-chu."—A species of *Commelina*, perhaps *C. com-*

munis. Demulcent, diuretic, and lenitive properties are ascribed to the dry foliage of this plant, and it is prescribed internally in fevers and dysentery, and externally in piles, abscesses, bites, &c.

"Po-ho" (probably *Mentha arvensis*).—The dried branches are considered carminative, antispasmodic, stomachic, astringent, sudorific, and alexipharmic.

"Ma-tou-ling."—This has been considered by some authors as *Aristolochia Kämpferi*, and by others as probably *Kæhreuteria*. The roots as found in the drug-shops vary in size from a goose-quill to that of a man's thumb. They are said to be powerfully emetic and purgative, and are useful as an anthelmintic. There is evidently much confusion in the identity of this drug.

"Pai-ho."—Under this name the tubers of a lily, which have been said to be *Lilium longiflorum* and *L. candidum*, are used as remedies in affections of the lungs, and are "cooked and eaten with fowl-broth as a tonic remedy." The former species grows wild in North Formosa, and is apparently the only one known as a drug there.

"Ts'ao-chue-ming" (seeds of *Cassia Tora*).—These small brown seeds, which are so common in many parts of India, are used in Formosa both for external and internal application in diseases of the eye.

"Mu-piè-tzù" (*Momordica cochinchinensis*).—This cucurbitaceous plant produces fine, bright crimson-red fruits covered with short spines, and contains a number of flattish, large, brown, carved or wrinkled seeds, averaging from three-quarters of an inch to an inch or more in diameter. They are prescribed in mesenteric enlargements, bruises, swellings, and ulcers.

"Chi-li."—This name is given to the peculiar spiny fruits of *Tribulus terrestris*, a plant belonging to the natural order Zygophyllæ, and found in many parts of India. They are reputed to have tonic properties, and to be very serviceable in spermatorrhœa; they are also prescribed to parturient and anæmic women.

"F'eng-hsin-ts'ao" (*Scirpus capsularis*).—The plant is said to be in great request as a diuretic, especially for little children. The stalks are sometimes steamed and the central white pith taken out, which is used to keep fistulous sores open. It is also much used to prepare a ptisan or menstruum for other drugs.

These few examples, taken from a collection numbering some 130 specimens, many of which are outside the possibilities of identification, will show the character of the materia medica of Formosa.

An American Druggist on Drug-Adulteration.

MR. ALBERT PLAUT, of the firm of Lehn & Fink, New York, as chairman of the committee on adulteration of the National Wholesale Druggists' Conference, some time ago delivered an address on the present condition of purity of drugs sold in the States. According to him, adulteration is decreasing, and several forms of drug-sophistication, formerly rampant, have disappeared. One of these is the so-called "pudding" opium. It is only a very short time ago that the market was flooded with it to such an extent that it became customary to designate the regular grade of commerce as "prime natural," in order to distinguish it from the manipulated stuff. But, in this case, publicity was sufficient to put buyers on their guard, and to-day no adulterated opium is to be found in the open market, though several large parcels are said to be stowed away in warehouses until the owners think that the trade has forgotten all about "pudding" opium.

Another article now rarely met with, though quite common

as late as two years ago, is the bastard cubeb. The high price which cubebs brought for so many years induced the collecting of the berries of several species of plants of the same family as the true cubeb, and closely resembling it in appearance, but of much less medicinal worth, being deficient both in essential oil and resin. Prices have now fallen so low that it no longer pays to handle the spurious berries.

False arnica-flowers—the flowers of a species of elecampane—were often found, a year or two ago, mixed with the genuine arnica to the extent of 50 per cent. They are also gone, for the same reason as the spurious cubebs.

Asafetida, too, chiefly owing to the efforts of the U.S. Customs examiners at New York, is now of a much higher average grade than a year ago, and though all the gum sold is not yet up to the pharmacopœial standard, yet noteworthy progress has been made, and stones, sand, and kindred substances no longer masquerade as "London" asafetida.

The ipecac-root that is being sold to-day is also freer from admixtures than that sold a year ago. So-called "Cartagena ipecac," also stems and tops, have repeatedly been denied admittance at the New York Custom House.

Among the substances to the adulteration of which particular attention has been attracted in the past twelve months copaiba balsam is one of the chief. A firm of New York importers issued a circular calling attention to the practice of adulterating this important remedy with gurjum balsam, and though some of the tests they recommend are rather crude, and some even impossible to carry out—such, for instance, as to hold a sample of the suspected balsam "in the sun"—yet their endeavour deserves commendation, and should serve to incite others to proceed in the same direction.

A frequent form of substitution is the sale of Curaçao aloes as Barbadoes. Once it becomes known that there is not a pound of genuine Barbadoes aloes in the country—all that is being sold as such being Curaçao aloes, put into gourds—the evil will no doubt cure itself. Aloes from which the aloin has been extracted has also been offered for sale as natural aloes. Most aloin is prepared from Curaçao aloes; after the aloin is extracted the remaining mass closely resembles Cape aloes, though the distinctive odour of the Curaçao aloes remains.

Russian cantharides, when sold in the form of powder, is being largely mixed with the Chinese variety. The latter is very much weaker in vesicating power; but the fraud is difficult of detection, a quantitative test for an active principle being a delicate and difficult operation.

The "cheapening" of olive oil, sesame oil, and similar fatty oils, by mixing cotton-seed oil with them, goes merrily on. The latest development in this line is that the cotton-seed oil is now being adulterated with paraffin oil.

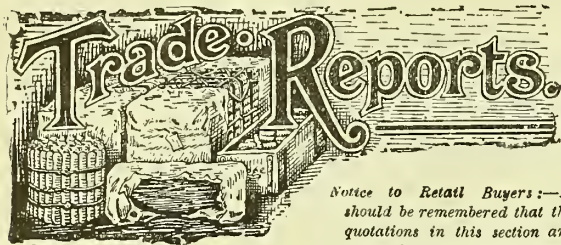
A matter to which attention should be called, though it does not come strictly under the head of adulteration, is the sale of mineral lubricating-oil under the name of "commercial" castor oil, "kastrol," &c. One of these brands is even advertised with testimonials from several wholesale druggists.

The sale of French and Turkish cuttlefish bone as Trieste is also a matter of notoriety, but buyers are getting informed as to the differences, and this petty deception will soon stop.

Selling Verona and Morocco orris-root as Florentine is another instance of deceit; when powdered, it is rather difficult to distinguish them.

Mr. Plaut has no very great hope that legislation can do much to improve matters. But he looks with confidence upon the work done by Colleges of Pharmacy and other similar institutions of learning, and of scientific and trade-journals. These, he thinks, are not only enlarging the knowledge of those engaged in our branch of trade, are not only exposing frauds and humbugs, but at the same time they elevate the character of the individuals, quicken their conscience, and develop their ethics. "Therefore," says Mr. Plaut, "let us foster them, honour them, and help them."

REMOVAL OF TATTOO-MARKS.—Sponge the part with mercuric-chloride solution (1-1,000) and tattoo the marks with a solution of 3 parts of zinc chloride in 4 parts of recently-boiled water. After a few days a crust forms, which falls off in the course of a week.



Notice to Retail Buyers:—It should be remembered that the quotations in this section are invariably the lowest net cash prices actually paid for large

quantities in bulk. In many cases allowances have to be added before ordinary prices can be ascertained. Frequently goods must be picked and sorted to suit the demands of the retail trade, causing much labour and the accumulation of rejections, not all of which are suitable even for manufacturing purposes.

It should also be recollected that for many articles the range of quality is very wide.

42 CANNON STREET, E.C., August 22.

The Liverpool Drug-market.

Our Liverpool correspondent, writing on August 21, says that *Acacia Gums* are moving slowly, *Soudan sorts* having been idle but steady, with a limited assortment offering at 50s. to 60s. per cwt. Other kinds are in fair supply, but share in the slow demand. *Beeswax* has been in better demand during the week, and one line of *Chilian* (about 37 packages) fetched prices ranging from 7l. 17s. 6d. to 8l. 5s. per cwt. Fine pale *Chilian* is held up to 9l. Considerable quantities of *Sierra Leone* sold at 6l. 10s. to 6l. 12s. 6d. per cwt. Some interest has been shown in a parcel of *Chinese beeswax*, offered at auction as "wax to sample," for which the brokers wanted 5l. 10s., but might have been induced to take less. The sample shown was peculiar—the pieces on the outside being a pale pink, while the interior was yellow, like ordinary beeswax—the colouring-matter used in the preparation of the wax having evidently become oxidised. *Kola-nuts* have found buyers in quantity at 5d. per lb. for good dry. More business has been passing in *Chillies*, poor *Sierra Leone* fetching 25s., while good realised 35s., prime being held for 37s. 6d. per cwt. The advance in *Calcutta castor oil* has been well established, good business being done at 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. to 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. *First pressure French* and *Madras* are hardening, the cheap parcels of the latter on the quay having been bought up. *Chilian anise* still available at 22s. 6d. per cwt. in quantity, but retail parcels have been sold during the week at an advance on this figure. *Canary-seed* is steady, and the position during the past week remains practically unchanged. Twenty bags of dark-grain *Cochineal* (Teneriffe) changed hands at 1s. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. Of *Cream of Tartar* 5 casks of Portuguese (a new feature), testing 95 per cent., were offered at auction, but failed to find buyers, exception being taken to the colour. *Honeys* all firmly held.

The Liverpool Oil and Chemical Market.

Our correspondent, writing on August 21, says that as compared with last week prices are generally unaltered, there is rather more business doing in heavy chemicals, and less in articles of minor importance, but there is a better feeling all round in heavy chemicals owing to the projected combination, meantime contracts for next year are greatly delayed, no change generally in alkalis except for forward. *Soda*: *Caustic*, 70 per cent. 7l. 10s., 60 per cent. 6l. 10s. per ton, lots under 10 tons 5s. per ton extra; *crystals* 2l. 5s. per ton, f.o.b.; *bicarbonate* in more request 5l. to 6l. 15s. per ton; *nitrate* 8s. 3d. per cwt; *hyposulphite* scarce at 7l. 10s. per ton; *silicate* 3l. 12s. 6d. per ton; *bichromate* scarce at 37s. 8d. per lb. *Potash*: *Prussiate* quiet at 8d. per lb.; *bichromate* firm at 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb.; *chlorate* stagnant at 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb.; *nitrate* 23s. per cwt. *Ammonia*: *Sal ammoniac* selling well at 39s. per cwt.; *carbonate* steady at 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per lb.; *sulphate* weak at 9l. 10s. per ton. *Bleaching-powder* easier at 6l. 10s. to 7l. per ton. *Copperas* and *Phosphorus* no change. At a meeting of the Yorkshire Petroleum Dealers' Association the basis of the price of oil was fixed on the

scale of the Anglo-American Oil Company's; it was arranged that there should always be a profit of 3d. per gallon when selling from the tank to the retailer, the present price for the gallon was fixed at 9d. *Palm oil* is hardening, and sellers are still offering sparingly at 19l. to 21l. per ton. *Olive oil* very steady in tone, and a fair business passing at 31l. for Levant and 32l. 10s. for Candia. *Linsced*, *Cotton-seed*, and *Petroleum* show no change.

Newcastle-on-Tyne Chemical-market.

Our Newcastle correspondent reports, on August 21, that orders for shipment against existing contracts are fairly good, but otherwise the market is quiet. Not much forward business is being transacted, as makers show a strong disinclination to do anything at present prices, although consumers evince some little anxiety to cover their wants. *Recovered sulphur* continues in fair request, at 3l. 17s. 6d. per ton net. *Hyposulphite of soda* remains firm, and there are moderate inquiries at unchanged rates. *Bleaching-powder* slightly brisker, at 6l. 10s. to 7l. 5s., according to destination. Demand for *Caustic soda* of highest strength has not abated, and 76 to 77 per cent. is quoted 9l. 10s. per ton net; 70 per cent., 7l. 15s. per ton net. *Chloride of barium* firmer, at 6l. 5s. to 6l. 10s., on rails. *Yellow prussiate of potash* weak, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. *Oxalic acid* without change, 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per lb., any port. *South Durham salt* continues to sell freely, at 9s. to 9s. 6d. per ton, f.o.b. Tees. *Pearl hardening*, 3l. per ton net. *Soda crystals*, 37s. 6d. per ton net, both for bags and casks (gross weight). *Saltcake* steady. *Chlorate of soda*, 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 7d. *Chlorate of potash*, about 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. *Sulphocyanides* still weak.

The Scotch Chemical Market.

Our correspondent writes us on August 21, as follows:—*Sulphate of ammonia* has again dropped considerably, today's value being from 9l. to 9l. 2s. 6d. per ton for prompt f.o.b. Leith. Buyers naturally are somewhat eager to cover their forward requirements at this low price, but makers do not show much disposition to meet them, being evidently under the impression that they may derive some benefit by holding their hands for a time. Shipments from Leith amounted to 432 tons last week. *Chlorate of potash* easier, but no alteration can be notified in quotations, 5d. per lb. less 5 per cent. any port being the price. *Chlorate of soda*, 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. *Saltcake* rather firmer at 15s. to 17s. 6d. per ton on rails. *Bichromate of soda* 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per lb. net. *Bichromate of potash*, 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. net, for English and Scotch deliveries, and 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. f.o.b., Glasgow for export. *Oxalic acid* 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. net, any port. *Sulphate of copper* is firmer and in fair request at 16l. 15s. to 17l., less 5 per cent. Liverpool. Although the alkali makers met last week with a view to arranging prices for next year, nothing definite was decided, 48 to 52 per cent. refined alkali, 4l. 15s. per cwt. net, Tyne; 48 to 52 per cent. soda ash, 3l. 17s. 6d. per ton net, Tyne. *Bleaching-powder* steady, but only in moderate request, 6l. 10s. to 6l. 15s. per ton net, Tyne.

The Amsterdam Market.

At the cinchona auctions, which will be held in this city on August 29 (writes our correspondent), 6,521 bales and 154 cases, weighing together 600,510 kilos., will be offered for sale. The manufacturing portion of this bark consists of 585,651 kilos., with an equivalent of 29,639 kilos. of sulphate of quinine (5.06 per cent.), the druggists' bark of 14,889 kilos., containing about 347 kilos. of quinine.

The Bulgarian Otto-of-Rose Market.

A correspondent writes:—During the last few years the comedy of fixing the new price of the Bulgarian otto has become an annual joke to all disinterested parties in Bulgaria. While some exporters are making offers of "extra fine" and "virgin" ottos at 27s. per T cz. in London, these same exporters have been buying, during the last fortnight, the otto of some of the most discredited villages in the county of Karlovo at a price ranging from 32s. to 35s. per T cz. Of course, all here know how the thing is done. The general belief in Bulgaria is that all the buyers and consumers abroad know nothing about otto, and are in consequence easily imposed upon. Some even believe that they prefer the adulterated to the genuine article. All sorts of anecdotes are daily narrated in

the market about the extraordinary ignorance of the foreign dealers, who readily buy a 30 to 50-per-cent. adulterated otto for the genuine article. When an article is sold in the consuming markets 20 to 25 per cent. cheaper than its purchased price in the producing-market, one can understand the sophistications practised in this trade. The articles usually used for the sophistication of the Bulgarian otto are ginger-grass and geranium-oils in their rectified form, and alcohol. Two other adulterants lately adopted and largely used by speculative houses are the newly-discovered artificial ottos and geraniums. These adulterants, when largely used, enable exporters who make a speciality of cheap grades to sell their "extra fine" and "virgin" otto 20 to 25 per cent. below the price they pay the producers and still to make a substantial profit. Hence their feverish speculation in the producing-market. So long as this speculation is possible and profitable the price paid for otto will remain high. The only way of putting an end to it is to make the sale of all made-up and sophisticated ottos an impossibility. This desirable end can be very easily attained this year provided all dealers and consumers abroad exact from their suppliers the genuine article. The new crop of otto is of very superior quality and fully 18 per cent. larger than last year's. It is from purely speculative motives that the sophisticating exporters of otto sustain the high price in Bulgaria. The higher the price of otto in Bulgaria the easier it is for them to dispose of their made-up grades at considerably lower quotations than the native price. Three weeks ago one of the exporting-houses bought the adulterated otto of the village Tcheinova (county of Kizanlik) at 32s. per oz.—a higher price than the one paid for it last year. It was then hoped that all the other exporters would not follow suit. A week later, however, three other houses followed suit, and jointly bought up the ottos of eight villages in the county of Karlovo at still higher prices. At present there is a complete standstill in the market and some of the sophisticators are already showing signs of restlessness.

The Swedish Chlorate of Potash Works.

The lately-erected chlorate of potash factory at Mansby, on the river Dalelven, in Sweden, belonging to Stockholm's Superfosfat Aktiebolag, was partially destroyed by fire on August 10, proximo, to the value of above 12,000*l.* being burnt. The factory and stock of chemicals were insured for about 33,000*l.* with Swedish offices. The cause of the fire was an accident in the melting of some lead.

Gurjun Balsam in Copaiba.

The continued recurrence of copaiba adulterated with gurjun balsam, or wood oil, has drawn attention once more to the means of detecting the adulterant. This is not a matter of difficulty, for twenty years ago, when wood oil was found in copaiba more commonly than now, much attention was paid to it, and, as a result, the literature of that period is fairly rich in tests. Without going back upon that, however, we would call attention to a test recommended by Messrs. Dodge & Olcott, of New York, as one which any wholesale druggist or broker may apply. It is—

If 4 drops of the suspected balsam be dissolved in a sufficiency of glacial acetic acid, say about $\frac{1}{2}$ oz., and into this solution 4 to 6 drops of fresh nitric acid be introduced, the result, if the balsam be straight gurjun, will be a mixture of a deep purple colour, resembling a strong solution of permanganate of potassium. If the balsam be pure copaiba, it will be clear and colourless, or but slightly cloudy—in either case without a trace of purple. An admixture of gurjun with copaiba will show the purple modified as to shade, and so small a proportion of the former as 2 per cent. will be brought to light in this way.

Messrs. Dodge & Olcott say the effectiveness of this test is complete. They have tried it on copaiba of positively known purity, on gurjun balsam positively known to be such, on mixtures of the two in various proportions, and on every conceivable combination of other related materials with these two that suggested itself; the result was invariably the same—the presence of gurjun balsam could not be hidden from the searching action of the reagents.

ACACIA.—A parcel of 120 bags fine sorts, from Suez, is held for 60s. per cwt. Another parcel, somewhat glassy, from Bombay, may be had at 54s. per cwt. Fourteen packages

picked Trieste gum were all bought in, small to yellow medium fair pale, 7*l.*; ditto yellow, at 6*l.* 15s.; small pale, at 5*l.* 10s., and brown at 80s. per cwt.

ACID (CITRIC).—Unaltered at 1s. 1*½d.* per lb. to 1s. 1*¾d.* per lb. according to source of supply. *Concentrated juice* offers at 13*l.* 5s. to 13*l.* 15s. f.o.b. per pipe.

ACID (SALICYLIC).—Up to the present there has been no change in the salicylic quotations, but if the prices quoted by outsiders continue the combination members may decide upon further reductions at their next meeting. Meanwhile, however, the combination have lately made a concession of 1*d.* per lb. for 1-cwt. casks, which may now be had at 2s. 3*d.* per lb.

ACID (TARTARIC) firmly held at 11*½d.* per lb. for English and foreign.

ACONITE.—Japanese root sold to-day at a decline of about 2s. 6*d.* per cwt., 22s. 6*d.* being accepted for 21 bags of small root.

ALOES.—There have lately been several new arrivals of *Cape aloes*, notwithstanding which the market remains steady. At auction to-day 51 cases were offered, and almost all disposed of at 24s. for fine bright hard; 23s. to 23s. 6*d.* for fair ditto; 21s. 6*d.* to 19s. for soft and drossy. *Scotrine aloes* neglected, 2 barrels being bought in at 72s. 6*d.* per cwt.; fair quality is held for 67s. 6*d.* Of a parcel of 127 bags *Curaçao*, 68 of ordinary dark quality found buyers at 10s. to 12s. per cwt.

ANISE.—*Russian*, 25s. to 26s. per cwt. for fair quality; *Turkish*, 23s. to 30s.; and *Spanish*, from 32s. to 35s. per cwt. A bag of fair green Spanish aniseed sold to-day at 31s. per cwt.

ASAFOETIDA.—At auction to-day 134 cases were offered, nearly all of which was sold at very high prices, only one small lot being sold at 80s. per cwt. for good almondy pinky block.

BALSAM OF CANADA.—Only 1 cask was shown to-day; it is held for 1s. 5*½d.* per lb.

BALSAM (PERU) may be had at 8s. 4*½d.* per lb. for good bright, genuine quality. At auction 8 cases were bought in at from 8s. 6*d.* to 9s. per lb.

BALSAM TOLU.—Unchanged. Two lots were shown to-day and bought in at 1s. 8*d.* and 1s. 10*d.* respectively.

BENZOLIN.—Rather firmly held, but somewhat slow of sale 252 cases were offered to-day, of which 38 sold, partly at steady prices. Only in one or two cases, where lots were offered without reserve, were they disposed of at very cheap rates. *Siam*: Fair hard brown block was bought in at from 9*l.* to 9*l.* 10s.; ditto, half black, medium to bold pale almondy, 1*l.* 8s. *Sumatra* gum fine seconds, almondy centres, fairly well picked, realised from 8*l.* 12s. to 8*l.* 17s. 6*d.*; fair seconds, rather false packed, from 6*l.* to 6*l.* 10s.; and ditto, without reserve, from 9s. to 100s. For a parcel of Penang, fair, glassy centres, false packed corners, a bid of 77s. 6*d.* was refused, 80s. being the price. Fair *Palembang*, sold without reserve, at 33s. per cwt. The exports of benzoin gum from Padang (Sumatra) in the course of the last five years have been as follows (in piculs of 133*½* lbs.):—

1890	1891	1892	1893	1894
4,513	4,846	6,298	6,011	7,398

The considerable increase since 1891 is due chiefly to the opening of a railway between the Port of Padang and the Omblien coalfields in the interior of the island of Sumatra, and it is likely that the exports will continue to grow. About 80 per cent. of the shipments go to Java, and thence to Europe, nearly all the remainder to Holland, excepting a few lots which are sent to Singapore.

BISMUTH.—The price-reduction of bismuth metal last week, on the part of the combination, amounted to 6*d.* per lb., the present wholesale quotation being 3s. per lb. We have already announced the corresponding reduction on behalf of the manufacturers of salts. Outside makers, however, are again cutting the present official quotations.

BUCHU.—In limited supply and fair demand, the price to-day being about $\frac{1}{4}$ *d.* above the last auction rate of $\frac{3}{4}$ *d.* per lb. for good green and 2*½d.* for small stalky mixed leaves.

CAFFEINE.—The market is decidedly easier; sales have been made by one of the English manufacturers at 20s. per lb. for October-November delivery. The other English maker asks 21s. for September.

CALUMBA.—Neglected. Thirty-seven bags of ordinary small washed were bought in at 16s. per cwt.

CAMPHOR (CRUDE).—Very little business has been done in raw camphor lately, but the market remains quite firm. The last business reported was a sale of 100 piculs Japan gum, for June-July shipment, at 182s. 6d. per cwt., c.i.f. Havre.

CAMPHOR (REFINED).—There has been no further change in the manufacturers' quotations. At auction a parcel of 100 cases Japanese refined camphor in 1-lb. tablets, damaged, sold without reserve "on account of whom it might concern." This parcel was well competed for and realised 1s. 7d. per lb.; the last lot 1s. 7½d. per lb. The shape does not lend itself very well for druggists' purposes, however, but the price must be considered a very low one.

CANARY-SEED.—Almost unchanged, the new crop now being near at hand, and selling at rather lower prices for future shipment. The current quotations are:—*Turkish*, 38s. to 40s.; *Moroccan*, 45s. to 50s.; *Spanish*, 52s. to 54s. per quarter.

CANNABIS INDICA is very low in price at present, 23 Robbins, fair tops, sold at 2d. per lb.; for another parcel 2½d. is asked.

CANTHARIDES.—Neglected, fair green *Russian* flies were bought in to-day at 2s. 6d., and for 10 cases small *Chinese* 1s. per lb. would be accepted.

CARDAMOMS.—Very irregular. There was a fair supply, and about 80 packages found buyers at occasionally slightly firmer rates for medium grades. *Mysore*, good medium to bold pale, 2s. 3d. to 2s. 6d.; medium ditto, 2s. to 2s. 1d.; small to medium pale, 1s. 10d. to 1s. 11d.; small ditto, 1s. 9d.; medium, brown, 1s. 6d. to 1s. 8d.; ditto mixed, partly split 1s. 5d.; small brown, 1s. 2d. to 1s. 5d.; and very small pale, 1s. 1d. to 1s. 3d. per lb. Cardamom-seed sold well at 1s. 9d. to 1s. 11d., per lb. according to quality.

CASCARA SAGRADA.—Still tending easier. Out of a parcel of 100 bags good pale silvery bark from San Francisco, 40 sold at the low price of 17s. per cwt. For another lot of 40 bags, not so good, thick and dark, 16s. 6d. would be accepted.

CASCARILLA.—Remains high in price, but the demand is not very strong at the present rates. Of 53 bags offered at auction, 5 sold at 48s. per cwt. for small, partly silvery, quill; ordinary thin brown was bought in at 37s. 6d. per cwt.

CASSIA FISTULA.—In fair supply; 32 bags West Indian, slightly wormy, partly lean and dry pods, were held for 20s., and a parcel of 101 bags was bought in at from 17s. to 17s. 6d. per cwt.

CINCHONA.—The periodical auctions of cinchona-bark held in London, on Tuesday of this week, were among the smallest that have ever taken place here, only 84 bales *Ceylon* and 773 bales *East Indian* (including 246 bales salvage) being offered. The bulk of this sold at the last unit-price of ¾d. per lb. Red bark—renewed chips brought 1¼d. to 1½d., grey bark—original shavings, 1½d.; renewed ditto, 1½d. to 1¾d.; yellow chips and shavings, 1½d. to 1¾d. per lb. A parcel of 40 serons crown bark sold to-day at rather low prices as follows: 10 bags Huanoco, ordinary to fair, partly damaged quill, from 4¼d. to 9¾d.; 21 bags mixed Loxa, fair quality, 10¼d. to 10¾d. per lb.

CLOVES.—Rather easier at auction, when 300 bales Zanzibar sold without reserve at from 2½d. to 2¾d. per lb. for fair to good quality. The market closes dull at 2¾d. per lb. nominally for fair Zanzibar on the spot.

COCA-LEAVES.—Six bales good bright green Truxillo leaves were bought in at 1s. per lb. to-day.

COLOCYNTH.—The supply of fine Turkish colocynth apple remains very small, and prices still range, according to quality, from 1s. 9d. to 2s. 3d. per lb. The only parcel offered to-day was one of 3 cases good pale Turkish apple, which is held for 2s. 6d. per lb.

CONTINENTAL DRUGS.—*Belladonna*: It is expected that the price of belladonna-root will shortly advance, as the crop has been rather small. Fine *German* root of the present crop is offering at 31s. per cwt.; *Hungarian*, of the usual mixed quality, at 26s. to 27s. per cwt. *Marigold-flowers* will be very dear this season, the current quotation being, for good to fine quality, from 136s. to 140s. per cwt. Similar grades were obtainable last year at the corresponding time at from 66s. to 70s. per cwt. *Arnica-flowers*, on the other hand, will be unusually low in price. *Stramonium-leaves*: Fine new *Silesian* offer at 32s. per cwt. *Henbane-leaves*: Fine first-year's growth have been sold in London at 78s. per cwt.; *German biennial* at 68s. per cwt.

CORIANDER-SEED.—Very slow of sale. It is not expected that even the present quotations will be maintained.

CREAM OF TARTAR is much firmer again. The London spot-quotation for best white *French* crystals is 73s. to 73s. 6d. *German* powder 75s. per cwt. From Bordeaux the last telegraphic quotation was 68s. 6d. per cwt. f.o.b., but it is doubtful whether any more is now to be had at that price.

CROTON-SEED.—Still remains firm. Only 10 bags were offered to-day, and sold with some competition at 37s. per cwt. The quality was fair.

CUBEBS.—Neglected and dull of sale; 77 packages were offered, all of which were bought in at from 40s. to 50s. per cwt. for fair to partly stalky berries from Singapore, A large parcel of ordinary quality may be had at 30s. per cwt.

CUMIN-SEED.—At auction 50 bags fair Maltese were bought in at 36s. and 2 serons Mogadore, rather dusty, at 25s. per cwt. The new crop of *Morocco* seed is now arriving. The quality is very good indeed, but there is not much demand at present.

DRAGON'S-BLOOD.—In plentiful supply; but the only kind really well competed for is dragon's-blood in reeds, of which 3 packages good quality, but partly damp, brought the high price of 10l. 17s. 6d. per cwt. A parcel of 9 cases of dragon's-blood in reed, rather damp, from Shanghai, was bought in at 12l. per cwt. Of Singapore gum only 2 packages sold, good pale fiery lump at 5l. 10s. Eight cases of ordinary Zanzibar drop were bought in at the low price of 15s. per cwt.

ELEMI.—Unchanged, but very dull. At auction to-day 40 cases good pale genuine gum from Singapore were bought in at 30s. per cwt. There was no bid for them even at 26s. per cwt.

ERGOT OF RYE.—Quite neglected. Nine bags very small but sound *Russian* ergot sold cheaply to-day at 5½d. to 6½d. per lb., while 12 bags wormy and dull *Spanish* were bought in at 8d. per lb.

EUPHORBUM.—Still tending lower, although there is not much room for further depreciation. Thirty-two cases of fair loose, very dusty and mixed with wood as usual, were offered to-day: only 14s. per cwt. was offered for them, and this the broker refused to accept, 15s. being his minimum price.

FENUGREEK-SEED.—Dull of sale, at 10s. per cwt. for fine yellow *Mogadore*, or 7s. 6d. to 8s. for *East Indian* of the new crop.

GALANGAL.—Twenty-bales of fair quality were bought in at 25s. per lb.

GALLS.—*Blue Persian* have been selling on a small scale at from 46s. 6d. to 47s. 6d. per cwt.; but in other kinds no business is reported, the nominal quotation for *Green* being 35s. to 39s.; and for *White* from 32s. to 35s. 6d. per cwt., with small stocks.

GAMBOGE.—Unchanged. Of 25 packages offered to-day, only 2 sold at 8l. 10s. to 8l. 12s. 6d. for fair mixed, partly drossy and ricey pipe. For a lot of dull ricey *Saigon* pipe a bid of 7l. 5s. was refused.

GUAIACUM.—Four cases medium to fair bright almondy quality sold to-day at from 12½d. to 1s. 8d. per lb.

GUM AMMONIACUM remains quite neglected. A small parcel was shown and bought in, 30s. per cwt. being the price asked for soft mass partly dark and partly good pale almondy, and 20s. for a much darker parcel.

GUARANA.—2s. 6d. is the price for fair quality. It could not be obtained at to-day's auction.

HONEY.—No animation was shown in any variety at to-day's auctions. *Jamaican* honey was mostly bought in at nominal rates, only two packages clean bright liquid brown selling at 23s., duller ditto at 20s. 6d. per cwt. Thick brown candied *New Zealand* honey was bought in at 28s. Orange liquid *Australian* at 18s. Fair clean yellow *Californian* at 45s. per cwt.

IPECACUANHA.—Of *Colombian (Carthagena)* root none was offered, 4 packages not being ready. Of *Brazilian (Rio)* ipecacuanha, 82 bales were shown, of which 13 sold without any appreciable change in price—fair, partly thin, annulated, sound, at 5s. to 5s. 3d.; damaged ditto, at 5s. to 5s. 2d. per lb. For a lot of good picked root 6s. 6d. was asked, and a bid of 5s. 9d. rejected. All holders appear to be firm.

JABORANDI.—Several lots were shown at auction to-day, but they did not include anything of fine quality; such a grade, in fact, would realise a very high price. Thirteen bales thin brown leaves, although offered without reserve, could not obtain a bid of 1s. 1d. per lb., and were bought in at 6d. For 4 bales of dark brown stalky leaves, the owner would be willing to take 8d. per lb., but he cannot get anything like it at present. Three bales fair crushed leaves from Paraguay were bought in at 7½d. per lb.

JALAP.—Steady, but without any incident of importance in the market. Nine bales fair, heavy *Vera Cruz* were bought in at 10d. per lb., and another parcel of 23 packages was taken out.

KINO.—Three bales of genuine East Indian kino, of 20 lbs. each, made up in London, were offered at auction, but withdrawn, there being no bids.

KOLA.—In considerable supply and tending slightly easier, although no decline was established to-day. Of 70 packages 31 sold at from 5½d. for mouldy to 8½d. for fair small brown *African*, and at 10d. to 10½d. for good brown *West Indian*.

KOUSO.—Fine Kouso in bundles is exceedingly scarce and would realise very high prices. Two bales of loose flowers, rather dusty, sold cheaply to-day at 5d. per lb.

LEAD (ACETATE).—There has been no further alteration since the recent reduction in German sugar of lead of 2l. per ton, the present price, according to quality, being 22l. to 23l. per ton, c.i.f. terms.

LIME-JUICE.—Neglected and bought in at from 1s. 3d. to 1s. 4d. per gallon for usual quality from *Dominica* and *Jamaica*, mixed with sediment.

LOOFAHS.—A parcel of Japanese loofahs was included in to-day's drug auctions. No one made a bid for it, although the auctioneer declared that he was prepared to take a very low price, and that the article was sure to go well in the present hot weather. The largest size, 1,858 pieces, measuring from 15 to 21 inches each, was bought in at 2d. per lb., and the small ones "to loofe the children" at a penny per pound. The last-named (*i.e.* the loofahs) numbered 2,735, and measured from 12½ to 14½ inches each.

MENTHOL.—Fairly steady, at 13s. per lb., on the spot, for good brands. For shipment 12s. 6d., c.i.f. terms, is quoted. At auction 2 cases fair crystals were bought in at 14s. per lb. No one would offer 13s. for the lot.

MUSK.—A fair supply was offered at auction to-day, but hardly anything was sold on that occasion. Of first-pile pods about 18 tins were shown; 72s. 6d. per oz. was suggested as the price for good dry small to bold pods, thin blue skin and underskin; 65s. per oz. as that for small to bold somewhat damp pods, blue and brown skin partly heavy underskin. A tin of old-fashioned small to bold third pile pods, grey skin, rather damp, was apparently sold at 18s. 6d. per oz.; and 2 tins third pile pods, old-fashioned, small to bold, dry, fair shape, sold "without reserve" at 18s. per oz. Four bottles of what was offered as "grain musk, or whatever it may be," per land-carriage, sold at from 1s. 10d. to 2s. per oz.

MUSK-SEED.—Good quality seed has been somewhat scarce lately. At auction to-day 41 packages *East Indian*, of rather weak odour, were offered, and sold surprisingly cheaply at 4d. to 4½d. per lb.

MYRRH.—Slow of sale and plentifully offering. Good sorts sold to-day at 67s. 6d. per cwt.; a large quantity of pickings at 20s., and a bag of dust at 10s. per cwt.

NUX VOMICA.—One thousand bags were offered, but only 163 sold at a decline of about 6d. per cwt. Good bright pale seeds of *Cochin* character from Bombay, realised from 6s. to 6s. 6d. Ordinary dull Madras 3s. per cwt.

OIL (CAMPHOR).—A parcel of 20 cases white camphor oil, from Hamburg, was bought in at 28s. per cwt. to-day.

OIL (CASTOR).—Sales of No. 1 white Calcutta oil have lately been made privately at 2½d. per lb. Best tasteless *Italian* offers at 30s. 6d. per cwt., c.i.f. terms. At auction 210 cases of Calcutta oil were offered, for which no bids were made. *Seconds* were bought in at 2½d. per lb.

OILS (ESSENTIAL).—*Star-anise* is nominally still held by most owners at 7s. per lb., but there is very little business doing, and it would probably be possible to buy at 6s. 10d. on the spot. For shipment, the quotation is 6s. 6d. per lb., c.i.f. *Cassia*: Steady, but quiet, at 6s. to 6s. 3d. per lb. for oil containing from 70 per cent. to 75 per cent. of aldehyde. *Coriander*, guaranteed pure, offers at 29s. 6d. per lb. *Italian* essential oils are in slight demand, and prices generally are tending easier. At auction to-day 11 packages *Citronella* oil in tins were bought in at 1s. 5d. per lb.; 20 cases *Lemongrass* oil, from Bombay are held for 1½d. per oz., another lot being bought in at 1½d. per oz. For white East Indian *Nutmeg* oil, 3d. per oz. is asked, and 2s. per lb. for good pale *Sweet orange* oil from Paris, of good odour. For 34 bottles *Cajuput* oil from Amsterdam 2s. each was bid, and may possibly be accepted. *Eucalyptus* oil was all bought in, "Platypus" at 2s. 6d.; "Native bear," offered without reserve, without mention of price. Eighteen cases *HGH American* oil of *Peppermint* were bought in at 10s. 6d. per lb., 4 cases Japanese at 8s., and 2 cases "Cocking's" ditto at 6s. 6d. per lb.

OPIUM.—*Soft-shipping* opium remains in fair demand with moderate sales at unaltered prices, quotations for good to fine being from 10s. 6d. to 11s. 6d. per lb.; *Fine Druggists'* varieties are quoted at 7s. 9d. to 8s. 6d., *seconds* 7s. to 7s. 6d.; *Persian* steady at 11s. to 12s. 9d., according to quality. The following are our latest advices from the producing country:—Our Constantinople correspondent writes, under date August 17, that in the week ending that day 20 cases *Tokat* have been sold to speculators at the parity of 9s. 3d., and 32 cases *Druggists'* at that of 7s. 1d. to 7s. 3d. per lb., f.o.b. The market closes quiet, the stock being 207 cases of old, 624 cases of new *Druggists'*, 22 cases of old soft-shipping *Malatia*, and 142 cases of new soft shipping—total, 995 cases. The arrivals since the beginning of the new season have been 864 cases, consisting of 656 *Druggists'*, 162 *Soft shipping*, and 46 *Salonica*. At the corresponding date of last year the arrivals were 311 cases. Our news from Smyrna is to the effect that the market appears at present to be at the mercy of a large speculator who purchases at high prices both in Smyrna and in the Interior, at the same time making consignments to London. If this gentleman should cease his operations the market is bound to fall, because there are no other buyers, either American or European. The last sales were on the basis of 7s. 4d. for old *Karahissar*, and 7s. for new *Tale qualc*, both on the spot and for delivery in two or three months. The arrivals since the beginning of the season were 1,650 cases, against 770 at the same time in 1894.

ORANGE PEEL remains quite neglected. Fair thin Malta strips were bought in at 9d. per lb., one case selling at 8d. Quarters from Malaga brought 3½d. per lb.

ORRIS.—This year's crop of Florentine root is unusually late, no new orris being as yet on the market. The opening price will probably be fixed about the beginning of September, but sales of green root have already been made to speculators upon the basis of the equivalent of 76s. per cwt. for best picked dried root. *Chips* are offering at 66s. 9d. The price of best-picked *Veronese* orris is 55s. per cwt., c.i.f. At to-day's auctions 36s. per cwt. was paid for 10 packages brown lean *East Indian* orris.

PERMANGANATE OF POTASH is rather firmer, several of the manufacturers being somewhat behindhand with their deliveries. Manufacturers' prices for small crystals range from 55s. to 57s. 6d. per cwt., large crystals being proportionately dearer.

QUAESIA CHIPS.—A parcel of 43 bags, together about 21 cwt. of fair chips, sold to-day without reserve at 107s. 6d. per ton, the bags being charged 6d. extra. Another parcel of 195 logs was bought in at 4l. 12s. 6d. per ton.

QUICKSILVER.—A very quiet market. The importers' price remains 7l. 5s. per bottle, but second-hand holders offer at 7l. 3s. per bottle.

QUININE.—The principal market-movement this week has been in quinine, of which considerable quantities, estimated to aggregate about 125,000 oz., have been sold since our last report at rising prices: 12 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. to 13 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per oz. for second-hand quinine on the spot, and 13 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. to 13 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per oz. for January delivery. The bulk of the purchases has been made by a prominent firm of brokers, who are still, it seems, continuing their operations at the close of the report. It is said—but we have not been able to confirm the rumour—that the manufacturers, while holding strictly to their quotations in Europe, are competing with second-hand holders in America. So far as our market is concerned, however, their prices have undergone no change, the quotations being as follows:—*Howard's*, in vials 1s. 4d. to 1s. 5d., in bulk 1s. 3d. to 1s. 4d.; *Whiffen's*, in vials 1s. 4d., in bulk 1s. 2d.; *Pelletier's*, in vials 1s. 5d.; *Fabbrica Lombardi's*, in vials 1s. 4d., in bulk 1s. 2d.; all the German makers, in bulk 1s. 2d. per oz. At to-day's auctions 5,000 oz. of *Brunswick* quinine in bulk were bought in at 1s. 3d. per oz.

RHUBARB.—In rather large supply, but difficult to sell. Of 186 cases, 27, mostly of inferior quality, sold at the following prices:—*Shensi*, small to medium, fair coat, fine pinky fracture, flat, 1s. 11d. per lb. refused, and bought in at 2s. 9d. per lb. Fair coat, three-fourth pinky, one-fourth grey, rather spongy round, held for 1s. 5d. per lb.; medium size, partly rough coat, round, half pale and half black fracture sold at 9d.; small flat, rough coat, fair grey fracture, at 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. *Canton*: The supply shown to-day included some of the well-known E.M.O. mark, which the broker tried hard to sell, although he failed to obtain satisfactory offers. Of other *Canton* root, small round druggists', fair pinky fracture, realised 1s. 3d.; medium to bold flat, seven-eighths pinky and one-eighth grey fracture, 1s. 4d.; small to medium ditto, 1s.; flat and round pickings, from 10d. to 11d. per lb. *High-dried* sold at 11d. per lb. for flat small to bold mixed, bright coat, three-quarters pinky fracture.

SANDALWOOD.—A new import of 65 bales fair bright logs from Madras were bought in to-day at 42l. 10s. per ton.

SARSAPARILLA.—Seventeen serons damaged *Honduras* were bought in to-day at 1s. 3d. per lb.

SCAMMONY-ROOT is in small supply, and held for higher prices, 40s. per cwt. being the current quotation. Fine *Scammonium* is scarce at from 27s. 6d. to 30s. per lb.; other kinds, however, are neglected.

SENEGA-ROOT.—Rather firmer. An American house is reported to be engaged in buying up all available on the London market. The price now generally asked is 1s. 4d. per lb. on the spot, but sales have been quite lately made at 1s. 3d. per lb. At auction an 8-bale parcel of good quality was bought in at 1s. 5d. per lb.; for another lot of 4 bales, rather chunky root, a bid of 1s. 2d. per lb. will be submitted.

SENNA.—*Alexandrian* leaves in fair supply, but without demand. Fine selected are offering at from 9d. to 1s. per lb. The new crop of *Tinnevely* senna is now arriving, and being offered at auction. To-day's sales included 368 bales of the T.V. variety, mostly new crop, but rather low average quality. Very good demand was shown, and the bulk sold at an average advance of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. to $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per lb. Medium to bold fair green leaf realising from 4d. to 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.; small to medium good green, 3d. to 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.; small to bold, partly yellow mixed and specky, 2d. to 3d.; ordinary dull mixed and specky, 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. down to $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per lb. Pods were also offered, but all bought in.

SHELLAC.—The market has been easing off slowly, but steadily, since our last report. On the spot *Second orange lac* (TN) is still nominally quoted at 126s. per cwt., and good *Garnet lac* (AC) at 107s. per cwt.; but for delivery 123s. has been accepted for August, 122s. for September, and 121s. per cwt. for October. The market closes very dull, and without business worth noting. At the weekly auctions 433 cases

sold at irregular prices, opening from 2s. to 3s. lower for orange, but partially recovering towards the close.

SQUILLS.—Yellow to fair pale was bought in at from 3d. to 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb.

STAVESACRE-SEEDS.—The crop this year is estimated to amount only to about 3 tons, and it is therefore expected that the already high prices of last year will be further increased. Small sales have been made within the last few days at the rate of 49s. 6d. per cwt., London terms, delivery when the new crop is ready, which will be in about three weeks' time.

STROPHANTHUS.—The only parcel to-day was one of 3 bags of fair green *Kombé*, for which 3s. 9d. was asked.

TAMARINDS.—Good *Barbados* tamarinds sell privately at 22s. to 23s. per cwt. At auction on Wednesday 6 barrels ordinary *Montserrat* (W I) realised 19s. 6d. per cwt. Sixty kegs of good bright new *Barbados* sold to-day from 22s. 6d. to 23s. per cwt., and 4 packages common *East Indian* at 6s. per cwt.

TEA.—The market generally is weaker as far as regards lower grades of Indians and Ceylons, and so dull for Congous that on Wednesday almost the whole sale was "taken out." On Monday and Wednesday some very cheap Assam Pekoe Souchongs sold from 6d. to 7d.; and Pekoes from 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 8d., the latter with style and wonderful liquor for the money. There are more useful teas coming in now, and here and there almost fine teas were to be had between 10d. and 1s., but these will hardly be right for another month. On Tuesday a big sale of Ceylons began fairly firmly, but slackened off later on, and went irregularly towards the close, good rough-leaf Souchong selling at 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., and useful Pekoes and Pekoe Souchongs at $\frac{1}{2}$ d. more. Broken Pekoes from 7d. to 9d. are very cheap, and worth attention.

TONCA-BEANS.—Quiet; fair frosted *Para* selling privately at 2s. 6d. per lb. A parcel of 24 cases *Para* beans (mostly damaged) sold very cheaply at to-day's auctions, from 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 9d. per lb. being accepted for ordinary foxy mixed, and 11d. per lb. for black but mouldy beans. Rather sandy black beans sold comparatively dearly at 1s. 9d. per lb., and a case of black and foxy mixed at 1s. 2d. per lb. Fair *Angostura* beans were bought in at 5s. per lb.

WAX (BEES').—All varieties are in plentiful supply, and sales were effected with some difficulty, excepting in the case of *Jamaican* wax, of which 42 out of 67 cases sold readily at a decline of about 2s. 6d. per cwt., while *Australian* was fully 5s. per cwt. lower. The following were the quotations: *Jamaican*, fair brown, mixed, to fine yellow and orange, 7l. 10s. to 8l. per cwt.; *Madagascar* held for 6l. 5s. to 7l., according to quality; *Zanzibar*, partly wormy, dull brown, held for 6l. 5s. to 6l. 10s. per cwt.; *East Indian*, greasy yellow Madras, 6l. 15s. per cwt.; *Australian*, fair grey and yellow mixed, 6l. 15s. per cwt. A parcel of 13 lbs. "wax" from Sydney sold at 2s. 6d. for the lot.

CHICAGO has 874 druggists in business.

HOW TO SUCCEED AS A CHEMIST.—"I noticed," said the druggist to his assistant, "that a gentleman came in with a prescription, and that you took it and gave him the stuff in about three minutes. What do you mean by that?" "It was only a little carbolic acid and water," replied the assistant. "I simply had to pour a few drachms of acid into the bottle, and fill it up with water." "Never mind if you had only to do that," the druggist declared. "Don't you know that every prescription must take at least half-an-hour to fill, or the customer will think he isn't getting anything for his money? When a prescription for salt and water or peppermint and cough-syrup is handed to you, you must look at it doubtfully, as if it were very hard to make up. Then you must bring it to me, and we will both read it and shake our heads. After that you go back to the client and ask him if he wants it to-day. When he says he does you answer that you'll make a special effort. Now a patient appreciates a prescription like that he's had so much trouble over, and when he takes it he derives some benefit from it. But don't you do any more of that three-minute prescription business, my boy, if you want to become a first-class druggist."—*Sheffield Telegraph*.



Memoranda for Correspondents.

In letters for publication correspondents are requested to express their views as concisely as possible.

Correspondents should write on one side of the paper only, and devote a separate piece of paper to each subject of inquiry.

The name and address of the writer should accompany all communications with, if desired, a distinctive nom-de-plume.

Professionalism in Practice.

SIR,—Home I came from the Bournemouth Conference, my waistcoat scarcely proving sufficient to keep within limits the bounding pulse of my heart as it throbbed its blue-blooded professional stream through my august frame. I was a professional man and must act as such. On the following morning I descended to my sh—pharmacy, I mean—and surveyed. It would not do for the newly-created condition of things. To stand behind a counter was now out of the question, and the counter with its shopkeeping aspect must be done away with or altered. Shall I sell it to the cheesemonger? No; I could not do without it, so it must be removed from its central position and placed against the wall, and re-named “The Elongated Bureau.” True, there was an obvious disadvantage in this manoeuvre, for the oblong sliding receptacle for the retention of bronze, silver, and occasionally gold medallion representations of our most gracious Majesty—in old, pre-enlightened days called the till—could not be got at. Henceforth, like my brother-professional the physician, I must treat coins as I did other petty annoyances—namely, pocket them. But, stay; have not I heard that a recently-deceased London physician had on his bureau a bowl into which the distasteful (but necessary) coins were placed. I, too, would have a bowl, but mine should appropriately be half filled with the aqueous distillate of the fragrant rose (and a little carbolic).

The disadvantage of this was soon apparent, for the takings were of such a character that the bronzy nature of my professional remuneration would have all too soon shown itself. Another bowl placed alongside the first must receive the copper coins after each customer had, as a sop to my feelings, wrapped each payment (acknowledgment, I mean) in one of the pieces of demy (5s. 9d. a ream) provided for the purpose.

A noise behind made me start. “A ha’p’orth of ‘air-oil, and please to put some saint in it,” was the demand. The professions must ever befriend the poor, and so I obtained the article demanded. “My boy, will you have the goodness to place your *douceur* in paper and put it into this bowl before you retire?” I grandly asked. My majestic, sweeping gesture did not convey to his mind what I wanted, but a more homely phrase and a more homely gesture showed that something wanted wrapping up. He took his bottle and wrapped it up, remarking, “Don’t yer wrap ‘em up when they’s only ha’p’orths?” I intimated that it was not the bottle which I meant. He produced from his dirty palm the old cork, which with true juvenile tact he had concealed there, and wrapped it up and put it in his pocket. I positively had to tell him I meant the coin to be wrapped up. He did it, and placed this package also in his pocket. I further explained, and a parcel was promptly transferred to my bowl. How professional I felt, but decided that the parcel looked too dirty, and so removed the wrapper to find—the cork. A whole morning of similar experiences followed, and I felt that something must be wrong. I felt that whatever blame there was in my present want of harmony with my environment must be the creation of the Pharmaceutical Society and its acts. To these, then, I turned, and to my horror I learned that my dream on the sunny southern pine-clad hills was evanescent. For was not my whole *locus standi, raison d’être*, and all else this—that I was considered qualified and duly licensed “to keep open shop.” I could not keep open shop on the Martinesque hypothesis, and so am an open shopkeeper on my own lines—sometimes, I admit, hard lines. Yours, &c.,

PILLER. (126/73)

Quackery (Limited).

SIR,—Mr. J. J. Jackson’s letter, under this heading in your last issue, throws out a valuable suggestion, one which has often occurred to myself. It is certainly one of the most annoying and constant experiences of a dispensing chemist to have to explain to a customer that in his prescription there is one ingredient which he (the chemist) does not stock, but can procure. In some cases the customer replies: “Never mind, I will just send the prescription to the chemist at Dulltown, where I had it originally made up; it is a prescription of Dr. Blank of that city”; or, perchance, he allows you to procure the article, but at the same time fancies you are not quite up to date, and consequently does not continue his patronage. Our shelves get fairly blocked with “remains.” I frequently, when having to procure small quantities of such, send either to a city retail chemist, or a wholesale house having a retail department, which obviates the necessity of having to purchase an original package—a much larger quantity than is wanted. One season here being now in full swing we have visitors from all parts of this country and from abroad. On reference to my prescription-book, I find that out of the last 100 prescriptions copied, there are eighteen articles prescribed (occurring in all twenty-four times) other than B.P. articles.

I would supplement Mr. Jackson’s suggestions by adding that whatever house adopt the same, they might, for the convenience of the trade, issue from time to time a list of goods stocked, and arrange a telegraphic code for same, perhaps in the following style, viz. :—

Maker	Preparation	Code	1 lb.	$\frac{1}{2}$ lb.	$\frac{1}{4}$ lb.	2 oz.	1 oz.
Beelzebub & Co.	Carbonate of the dodidmans ..	Dod	1	2	3	4	5
"	Scrappings of the barley ash ..	Bar	1	2	3	4	5
"	Parings of the butcher’s broom	Par	1	2	3	4	5
Ramstam ..	Fl’d. ext. magnum bonum ..	Magn	1	2	3	4	5

A telegraphic code would thus materially reduce the cost of telegrams.

Oban, August 19.

Yours faithfully,

SAMUEL LAWRENCE.

SIR,—The impossibility of obtaining goods as suggested by Mr. Jackson in your issue of August 17 is one that chemists frequently feel, the loss in having to obtain a quantity of any given preparation when only a few drachms are required being considerable.

For some little time I have been perfecting a system of supplying goods on the lines of Mr. Jackson’s letter, and am now prepared to supply by return of post small quantities of almost all proprietary medicines and specialties on receipt of card or wire.

Yours faithfully,

5 Pimlico Road, London, S.W., JOHN D. MARSHALL.
August 21.

Aq. Menth. Pip. Conc.

SIR,—Made as directed in my formula, and added to distilled water, this yields a fairly satisfactory product; but I admit it is not perfectly clear. Nor is this defect remedied by reducing the proportion of oil; it can only be done by filtering, and this the use of a concentrated water is intended to avoid.

Yours obediently,

1 Cannon Street, Dover, August 16. J. F. BROWN.

Chlorine Gargle.

SIR,—It would be a boon to doctors if in the new Pharmacopœia there was added a formula for gargarisma chlori. The B.P. liquor chlori will not keep, and liquor sodæ chlorinatæ is not so useful as the following, which is much in use by old-fashioned surgeons and country practitioners :—

Take 8 gr. of potassii chloras and put into an 8-oz. bottle; add 8 minims of strong hydrochloric acid; cork. When effervescence has ceased add \mathfrak{ss} . aquæ, and shake well for several minutes [seconds.—ED.]; then add another \mathfrak{ss} . aquæ, and again shake. Repeat this until the bottle is full.

Imagine having to write all this in a prescription. Of course it would be much better to have only to write—

Gargar. chlori. ʒviij.
More dicto utendum.

BRISTOL. (124/67.)

[We had thought that this well-known mixture was kept in all leading dispensing establishments. It is very often prescribed as "mist. chlori," and would not be out of place in the Pharmacopœia, for the liq. chlori is a failure.—ED.]

E'en Homer Nods!

The subjoined are not all the notes we have received in regard to a slip of last week. If we ever feel, when plodding through queries, that they are not read generally, we get such reminders as these to assure us that the eyes of the trade are ever on 42 Cannon Street:—

SIR,—We live and learn. The old order of things changeth, and I learn for the first time in all my pill-driving days, from the reply given to "Mel Boracis," of Calcutta, that creta ppt. is precipitated chalk, whereas "The Art of Dispensing" and Pereira's "Selecta" both give ppt. as the "common contraction" for "prepared."

Clifton Dispensary, Bristol, FRANKLIN CHALMERS.
August 17.

SIR,—Creta ppt. is generally used as a contraction for creta preparata—not the precipitated, but prepared, chalk.
228 Stanley Road, Bootle, HAROLD WYATT.
August 16.

Poor-law Dispenserships.

SIR,—Despite the egotistical ravings of "Justitia" (a misnomer surely), I still am of opinion that it would be an injustice to deprive "Hall" men of these appointments. I do not claim, nor have I ever claimed, "superior ability" to chemists—to do so would indeed be presumption—but as a dispenser of many years' practical experience (my average during the past ten years being 150 prescriptions weekly) I do claim equality with many men holding the "Minor" qualification. "Justitia" speaks of the privileges of the "Minor." What are they? A "Minor" man may open a shop—a doubtful privilege in these days, as probably many of your readers will admit—and he may sell 1d. worth of laudanum over his counter; but the "Hall" man may dispense the same prescriptions as he, though not in the same place.

"Justitia's" remarks as to my qualification, and the supervision he considers should be given to the Hall assistants, I pass with the contempt they deserve. I would like to clear his mind on the following points:—

(1) That it was an "indignant" rather than a "facetious" spasm I had when writing my last letter. A man is not usually facetious whilst an attempt is being made to rob him.

(2) That the "unfortunates" he enumerates are not the only ones who present themselves for the "Hall certificate," neither is the examination always taken as a last resource. He speaks contemptuously of the Hall examination; but is it not a fact that the practical part of it is conducted by an examiner from Bloomsbury? By the way, I do not wish to be uncharitable, but are we to assume that it is in consequence of his "practical experience" with the "ne'er-do-wells," &c., that he is enabled to say "until recently I prepared candidates, &c."?

As I do not wish to again trespass upon your valuable space, I would now thank you for allowing me to express my views, and, in conclusion, I would inform "Justitia" that "abuse is no argument."

Yours faithfully,

August 21. APOTHECARIES' HALL. (127/42)

DISPENSING NOTES.

What is Zinc Phosp.?

SIR,—Some eighteen years ago I dispensed a pill containing ferri sulph., ext. nucis vom. et anthemid. and zinci phosphatis, the latter in 1-gr. doses,

On looking back still further I am reminded of a similar pill prescribed by an eminent London physician in January, 1872, when I was moved to send to the *Pharmaceutical Journal* a formula for the preparation of this salt (vol. ii. page 677).

Had Mr. Hudson's prescription fallen into my hands, I should have inclined to decide for phosphate rather than phosphide, and, if the number was varied at all, for twenty-four.

J. F. BROWN.

SIR,—The prescription containing above is copied from Tanner's "Practice of Medicine," who directs—

	Gr.
Ferri redacti	36-60
Pepsinæ porci	36
Zinci phosphatis	18
Glycerini	q.s.

Div. in pil. xxiv.

Two to be taken every day at dinner. In anæmia, &c., with weakness of the digestive organs.

The prescription in the *C. & D.*, August 17, directs to be made into twenty-six pills, and dose one at dinner.

Yours faithfully,
St. Leonards-on-Sea, August 16. C. WELCH.

LEGAL QUERIES.

Immediate information on pharmaco-legal matters is available in "Pharmacy and Poison Laws of the United Kingdom," Alpe's "Handy-book of Medicine-stamp Duty," and THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY.

124/21. A. W. C.—Your corn-solvent label renders the article liable to stamp-duty. You will find illustrative liable and non-labile corn-solvent labels in Alpe's "Handy-book," which you can get from any wholesale house for 2s. 6d., or from ourselves at 2s. 9d., post free.

124/57. Spirit.—We understand that unregistered persons may not sell either sp. chloroform or tinct. chloroform. co. Chloroform is contained in these, and when they are sold chloroform is sold. The expression "preparations of" in the schedule seems to be superfluous.

124/60. W. C. asks "if one or more proprietary articles can be called by the same name by different proprietors that are not registered or liable to stamp-duty." We do not make out the drift of this question.

125/6. Employer.—Our reply to "J. W. B." about period of notice between chemists and their assistants applied to engagements of the usual character. We know of no custom governing evening engagements only, and do not expect the answer would apply in those cases. If your report of the language used by your assistant is a fair one, it would, we think, have justified summary dismissal, presuming that it was used on insufficient provocation.

MISCELLANEOUS INQUIRIES.

Back numbers containing formulæ, educational or other specific information can be obtained from the Publisher.

N.B.—We destroy anonymous letters. We do not answer queries of the kind here dealt with by post. We ask that separate queries shall be written on separate sheets of paper.

113/72. A. W. K.—We cannot reasonably put the questions which you ask.

113/30. Assistant.—In regard to Minor work, see our last Educational Number, September 15, 1894.

112/47. *Anglo-Saxon*, and 113/63. *Junior*.—The questions given in the Minor examination are not published unless in the form of such articles as we printed in the Summer issue.

107/35. *Oxymel*.—To Filter Oxymel Scillæ Bright use a well-wetted felt filter-bag, and filter before it is quite cold in a warm room.

112/34. *Yorks*.—The sample of Tonic for Indigestion might be imitated as follows:—

Ac. nitro-hydrochlor. dil.	..	..	..	5ij.
Spt. chlorof.	..	..	..	5ij.
Glycerini	..	..	..	3j.
Inf. quassiae ad	..	..	..	3xij.

M.

Colour with liq. coeci to desired shade.

107/71. *Inquisitive*.—Foot-rot Paste found so efficient would seem to be similar to No. 1, page 43, "Veterinary Counter Practice," suitably coloured.

112/4. *Lex*.—For details of Milk Analysis, with processes suitable for an examination under the Adulteration Acts, see paper by A. W. Stokes, public analyst for Paddington and Bethnal Green, page 344, March 5, 1892.

92/21. *Alpha*.—Please send on fresh sample, your former one seemingly has gone astray; also state purpose for which it is wanted, this being often an important factor in arriving at constituents and suitable price.

113/32. *Specs*.—Sanitary Nursery Oil, clear and bright, pleasant to use.—See page 124, July 27, 1895. For a working-class population you might use oil of stavesacre and olive, or any of the usual hair-oils, perfumed to suit, and coloured with alkanet; of the stavesacre oil 1 to 8 is quite efficient.

90/40. *Cascarilla*.—Petroleum-cream for the Hair.—Dissolve 2 oz. best white curd soap in 15 oz. water, with the aid of heat, add gradually to 1 pint of nut oil, to which has been added 8 oz. ol. petrolatum, or in which 4 oz. ungt. petrolatum or vaseline has been dissolved. This forms a creamy emulsion, which may be perfumed with essential oils as desired.

111/60. *Borax*.—The Substance generally Used for the Hands in Fielding at Cricket is powdered resin. This prevents the balls slipping, and tends to harden the skin.

107/36. *Engerer*.—Sanitary Hair-lotion containing cocculus indicus, for parasites:—

Coccul. indic.	..	..	..	5j.
Ac. acetic dil.	..	..	..	3xx.

Macerate for a week, and add—

Naphthol	5ij.
Spt. odorat.	3ij.

Solve, filter, and add—

Glycerini	3iv.
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M.

The cocculus will require to be bruised. Add any perfumed spirit as desired.

105/68. *Verax*.—To Cure Ringworm on the Face and Head, glycerine and carbolic acid (1 in 4), iodine, glacial acetic acid, strong nitric acid, or a strong solution of naphthol in a saturated solution of green soap in spirit, will, any of them, be efficient. The last, with the addition of a little oil of lavender, makes a nice preparation rather out of the ordinary run.

77/62. *A London Chemist* had an order for "Hoyle of swaller, 1*l*.; hoyle of brick, 1*l*.; hoyle of worms, 1*l*.; hoyle of gowt, 1*l*.; if you please." He supplied a mixture of ol. viride and ol. terebinth.; but the customer wrote:—"I daunt think it had no hoyle of gowt in, has it smell different when I had it beafour." Our correspondent asks what should have been given. We should think "Hoyle of gowt" may have descended from ol. origani; there is a "g" in both, and apparently a smell too. [We are sorry this answer has been delayed.]

126/8. *J. Cooper*.—The design on your plate is simply the arms of the Apothecaries' Society and is of no antiquarian value. It would not be prudent for you to use it unless you are a licentiate of the Society.

124/13. *F. H. Gordelier*.—The fruits you send are those of the beam tree (*Pyrus Aria*, L.), a somewhat variable species indigenous to this country. When mellowed by frost the fruit becomes edible and is also said to yield a good spirit. The wood, which is close-grained and very hard, was formerly used for beams for oxen and for the cogs of mill-wheels.

122/76. *E. W.*—We can only refer you to the article on "sheep-dip," in our issue of April 13, page 523. Chemists have tried over and over again to hit the process for the arsenical dip which you mention without success.

125/2. *Booth*.—The Foot-powder formula is based upon an analysis of a sample sent to us. Please do not ask us to stand sponsor for all these things, but we can assure you that the combination is a safe and good thing, but we prefer:—

Salicylic acid	..	..	..	5j.
Boric acid	..	..	..	5ij.
French chalk	..	..	..	3vj.

Mix and perfume with a drop of an essential oil.

124/66. *J. J. F.* wants to know the best cheap odourless disinfectant and deodoriser for butchers', fishmongers', and milkmen's shops. Formalin in tablets. That has a slight odour, but the gas evolved is a true disinfectant, and preserves the food without tainting it. The next best thing is Condy's fluid put down in shallow dishes.

122/64. *Cyclist*.—You have an exaggerated idea of your carrying power on a bicycle, and after a day of a whole-plate camera you will find that you have more than enough. A half-plate will be big enough, and we think, everything considered, that a Kodak with a R. L. lens would suit you. This can be used either with a roller-film or plates. It will cost you six to eight guineas, according to the kind of lens you have. Get the "Ilford Manual," it costs 1*s*. and is a reliable book. Give us a call when in London.

125/57. *F. J.*—If the red ink is made with an aniline dye, you should have little difficulty in removing it from the flannel with chlorinated-lime solution, which apply and follow up with very dilute hydrochloric acid. Of course, the lime-solution must also be weak.

126/20. *T. B.*—Dulled Combs can be brightened by vigorous polishing with soft cotton cloths. The way this is done in the factories is with wheels made of thirty or forty discs of the cotton, and these are turned at a very rapid rate. We hardly expect you to get so good a polish by hand as with a wheel and lathe: we suppose you will feel the same.

121/17. *Blankets*.—We do not know any way in which the sulphur odour can be removed from the flannel without wetting, except by exposing it to a strong heat. If so-called dry steam can be used, that will get rid of it quickly.

126/22. *Ignoramus*.—To make Steam-cooked Flour at home tie the flour in a bag as you would a pudding, and boil for six hours. Dry the mass and powder.

121/22. *L. & Son*.—Glycer. pepsin. acid.—See *C. & D.*, December 16, 1893, page 878.

119/67. *Subscriber*.—The age of spirits cannot be estimated by chemical means. That is the conclusion arrived at by the Healy Committee, who got the highest chemical evidence to guide them.

123/65. *Cid*.—We have heard it said that Beecham's pills contain aloes, soap, &c.; but we do not put any reliance upon statements based upon analysis made by persons who know little or nothing about the compounding of drugs. Moreover, if your object is to imitate the pills, we must decline to assist you, that being in face of the prosecutions of past years a risky business.

123/70. *Boz* asks, "What is the best mordant to use for the human hair in applying an aniline dye?" That depends upon the kind of dye he uses. A copper salt has been recommended, in making aniline marking-ink; but it is not always a success, and, in our opinion, an aniline hair dye would be a failure.

123/35. *E. B.*—Cloudy Ammonia—This is a name which was invented by the proprietors of Scrubbs' article, and we do not think that anyone else should use it. The formula for household ammonia as in the *C. & D.*, October 6, 1894, contains too much soft-soap—5j. is the quantity to use—and you may take curd-soap, which gives on the whole a better product. You should adjust the soap to suit your own requirements, as it is not very material to the quality of the product. You will find the formula for oleate-of-ammonia solution in the *C. & D.* for May 12, page 695. By 16° ammonia is meant liq. ammon. fort. and aquæ part. æqual.

122/17. *A. F. A.*—Aqua Flor. Aurant. may be made from oil of neroli petale, in the proportion of 10 minims to 1 pint of hot water. Shake well, and when cold, filter through a wet filter-paper.

93/71. *A. C.*—We fear we cannot give you a satisfactory reply. A charge of hot starch and hot calendering are the usual means for stiffening cardboard, and that might be tried with the brown paper.

121/18. *More Light*.—We will inquire into the matter, and let you know.

98/49. *Ajax*—There is no book in English that we know of on the Manufacture of Margarine. The machinery cannot cost much, for the process, as we have seen it carried out, consists simply in rendering lard and ox-suet by means of steam-heat and at a temperature not far above their melting-points; these are then mixed in suitable proportions in a large steam-jacketed churn half-filled with milk. A suitable proportion of colouring matter and butter-flavouring is then added, and the whole of the mixture well churned for about fifteen minutes, when the contents of the churn is run into a vat of iced water. The margarine solidifies, and is immediately packed.

122/57. *J. F. M.*—We have not yet met with a machine for filling collapsible tubes with tooth-paste, and have always seen it done in factories by hand.

124/72. *Orientalist* (writing from India) asks for "a practical formula for improving the taste of tea." We are afraid we cannot answer this question. When the leaf has

been picked and dried, there is no way that we ever heard of in which it can be improved apart from the process of blending. The cultivation of tea can be learned better in India than here. The only work on tea blending that we know of is "The Art of Tea-blending," published by Whittingham, of 91 Gracechurch Street, E.C., at 3s. 6d. You can hardly expect to learn from a 3s. 6d. book what other people spend years in acquiring a knowledge of. A good Coffee-essence may be made by percolating ground coffee with boiling water. The percolate should be quickly evaporated at a gentle heat to a treacly consistence, and then mixed with an aqueous extract of chicory, representing in chicory about one-half of the coffee used, together with a thick syrup of burnt sugar, equivalent to one-quarter of the coffee used. The essence should be bottled as soon as made and kept in a cool place.

INFORMATION SUPPLIED.

For this section we are always glad to receive from subscribers brief notes on practical subjects, recipes which have been found good in practice or which have required modification, and hints or fresh ideas on any pharmaceutical or trade matter.

To Exterminate White Ants.

A Queensland correspondent (124/59) writes:—In your issue of June 1 an inquirer (55/4) asks for a method of exterminating white ants. A certain exterminator and preventive in every-day use in Queensland is a solution of arsenic with pearl-ash or washing-soda in boiling water. The liquid while hot is brushed on the stumps and lower boards of new buildings, or over the infested parts of old walls, and is eminently successful.

INFORMATION WANTED.

The Editor invites, on behalf of inquiring subscribers, postcard replies to the following:—

129/95. Germol: who makes?

127/25. Walloleum (a waterproof material): where obtainable?

127/47. Address of makers of "Pynka" polishing-tablets.

74/30. What is shogat, and where obtainable?

THE KOLA-NUT is doing so well in Jamaica that in the course of four or five years a crop of 40 to 50 tons is looked for.

WANTS TO BE REGISTERED.—The following is a letter received by the secretary of the Oklahoma Board of Pharmacy, which leads him to think that the writer "may be a good doctor, but is certainly not a good druggist":—

osborn o. t. 1895.

I see territory Board of Pharmacy I drop these few lines to get the correct a dress where I can send my certificate so I may get Redgestered here in the territory Please let me know all a bout it and obldige

J. B. S.

—Phar. Era.

PROFESSIONAL PRICES FOR DRUGS.—The Kingston Guardians have resolved to call the attention of the district medical officers to the terms of their original contracts in respect to the supply of quinine, linseed meal, and cod-liver oil at cost price. It was mentioned, at a meeting of the Guardians held on Wednesday, that the price charged by the officers for quinine was 1*l.* per oz., the current price being only 1*s.* 8*d.* or 2*s.* They also charged 32*s.* per gallon for cod-liver oil, which could be bought at 6*s.* 6*d.* The present price of linseed meal was 1*l.* 4*s.* per cwt., but the medical officers charged 1*l.* 17*s.* 4*d.* It was elicited that the contracts with the medical officers were entered into about thirty years ago, when the prices of drugs were much higher than they are now.